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Tributes to

Abraham Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources providing testimonials lauding the 16th President of the United States

Surnames beginning with

She-Sma

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

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Shedd, John A.

WE shall never forget Lincoln, but we are liable to forget two powerful influences which helped make him great, those plain, commonplace, God-fearing backwoodswomen, Nancy Hanks and Sally Bush Johnston. God bless and preserve the memory of Abraham Lincoln's mothers!

WE praise and write about the beauties of the "simple life"; there was once a man who never talked about it; he simply lived it; and his name was Abraham Lincoln.

IN that humble Lincoln log cabin they tell us that there was at one time but a single book, but it was *the* Book. With Almighty God for a schoolmaster and His book for a text book, no wonder that the scholar shook the world!

LAUGHTER is the safety valve of a busy, worried man's life. Wisely, Abraham Lincoln, "the man with a Civil War upon his back," learned this lesson. Beware of and pity the man who never laughs.

WHEN tempted to use long words or elaborate sentences, do not forget that not one sentence is remembered of the studied and refined oration of Edward Everett at Gettysburg, while every word of Lincoln's speech is treasured wherever the English language is known.

WITH some men "Honesty is the best policy." With "Honest Abe" honesty was the *only* policy.

EDUCATION is good, culture is good, morality is good, but Abraham Lincoln proved that simple, child-like righteousness is above and before them all.

John A. Shedd.

TOLD GOOD JOKE ON HIMSELF

Lincoln Appreciated Humor in Remark Made by Exceedingly Frank, Outspoken Lady.

When Mr. Lincoln was presented by the toastmaster of a banquet of Illinois editors in 1856, he began with an apology for his presence, speaking of himself as an interloper, and then he said he was reminded of an incident. He did not say that he was giving a personal experience of his own, but the editors surmised as much and were greatly amused.

Mr. Lincoln said that the man of whom he was speaking possessed features which the ladies could not call handsome. This man, while riding through the woods, met a lady on horseback. He turned out of the path and waited for her to pass. She stopped and looked at the man a few moments. Then she said:

"Well for land sake, you are the homeliest man I ever saw."

"Yes, madame," the man replied; "but I can't help it."

"No, I suppose not," the lady said: "but you might stay at home."

Lincoln's Task.

Mr. Lincoln's perilous task has been to carry a rather shaky craft through the rapids, making fast the unruliest logs as he could snatch opportunity, and the country is to be congratulated that he did not think it his duty to run straight at all hazards, but cautiously to assure himself with his setting pole where the main current was, and keep steadily to that. He is still in wild water, but we have faith that his skill and sureness of she will bring him right at last.—Lowell (1864).

Lincoln's Blessing.

Lincoln attended a woman's fair given in 1864 for the benefit of the soldiers. In his speech he praised the soldiers and then added: "If all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women were applied to the women of America it would not do them justice for their conduct during the war. God bless the women of America."

Pointed Out Safety's Path.

Abraham Lincoln said: "Teach reverence and obedience to the Constitution and laws of our country and we are safe; otherwise there's danger ahead."

Sheldon, Rev. Dr.

LINCOLN THEME OF SUNDAY SERMON

REV. DR. SHELDON DRAWS LESSON OF WORLD WIDE IMPORT FROM STRUGGLE OF '60'S.

SLAVERY NOT WHOLLY ABOLISHED

Industrial Slavery Has Followed Chattel Slavery—Courage Still Needed to Meet Issues.

Extolling the character of Lincoln, reviewing the cause of freedom which triumphed under the direction of the great leader and drawing from the events of the sixties a lesson in strength of character that must have place in all ages if progress be conserved, Rev. Frank M. Sheldon of the First Congregational church devoted his sermon Sunday night to an appeal for more democracy in affairs industrial. The shackles are stricken from the black man, our government is essentially democratic but the aristocracy of wealth must give way. Until this is accomplished the spirit of slavery in America will not wholly have vanished. Dr. Sheldon commended the profit sharing system in vogue in many of the larger industrial concerns.

The Sermon.

The sermon in full follows:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Dedication of American People.

This address was a dedication of the Gettysburg cemetery. But more than that it was a dedication of the American people, then, and for all time, to the cause of individual and national freedom. We may not celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of this greatest American's birth in more appropriate manner than by endeavoring to bring from his life inspiration and help for the great work to which he has dedicated us.

We might worthily dwell upon the facts and experiences of his early life. With these, even the school boy is so well acquainted, that it is not necessary. That struggle with adversity and the remarkable achievement which followed should bring immeasurable inspiration to all who struggle upward through unfavorable conditions. Such conditions spell power to those who have the hardihood to master them. With that famous scientist, Charles Darwin, who was born upon the same day, Lincoln was privileged to experience what someone has called, "the advantage of disadvantage".

Native endowments and the determination to make the most of them, through his direct contact with things, with issues and with men, gave to him one of the most many sided and symmetrical of lives. His combination of intellect and heart produced a wisdom rarely equaled. Keen of intellect, pure of purposes, he developed an insight into truth, a grasp of fundamental principle and an attitude to life remarkable in the extreme. In the deep things of God, down in the essential nature of man, he found those eternal principles and laws of righteousness, of justice, and of kindly human helpfulness, which made him the giant leader in a mighty cause. He knew, what most politicians and would-be statesmen seem never to learn, that no question is ever permanently settled until settled in accordance with the eternal law of right. In this law he anchored his life and from this vantage ground saw men and issues in their true relation to the eternal struggle. Abraham Lincoln was the soul of honesty; he was a wonderful embodiment of universal good will and of the Christ ideal of brotherhood.

Great Events In Lincoln's Career.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 revealed his wonderful grasp of fundamental principles and his mastery of men and issues. In all the United States there was not another man who would have dared challenge "the little Giant", as Douglas was called. In the United States Senate Douglas had put to rout the brightest lights, singly and when all were combined against him. Racy, versatile, subtle, he was a past-master in debate. But in Lincoln Douglas more than met his match. Lincoln was the man of principle; Douglas the man of expediency. Lincoln would compromise on non-essentials, on principles never. Douglas would compromise himself or compromise an issue. He championed popular sovereignty, because it was popular and would help him in the North. He defended the Dred Scott decision, because it was popular in the South and would help him there. Yet these two positions were utterly unreconcilable. He declared that he didn't care whether slavery was voted up or voted down, which Lincoln interpreted to the people as an utter indifference to the right or wrong of slavery. At Freeport Lincoln compelled him to say clearly whether he stood by popular sovereignty or not. Lincoln had been urged by friends not to do this. But he was not fighting just for the present and his keen insight told him that if Douglas answered "no", it would defeat him for the senate; if he answered "yes", he could never be president. Douglas stood by popular sovereignty because it was the immediate necessity, won the senatorship and after the campaign hastened south to regain his southern constituency. This he was never able to do.

Lincoln understood the common soul of humanity. What many saw dimly he saw clearly. He expressed what they were groping after in such manner as to clarify and crystalize their thought. Thus he became the interpreter of their own feelings and of the issues which were pressing to the front. What many saw as remote possibilities, he saw to be inevitable because of the very nature of the factors and interests which made up the conflict. He moulded and guided the thought of the North, because he saw and stated with masterly clearness the essential factors in the inevitable conflict.

His Grasp of the Universal Mind.

And then Lincoln knew how to wait. He could lead people because he did not go so fast that they could not follow. The widely different views in the North made it certain that any action as president would be criticised. But lest this criticism overwhelm the administration he insisted that the South must be the aggressor. They commenced the conflict. Then, when the conflict grew to giant proportions and criticism for it was sharp and cruel, he could say, as he did, this war was not for our seeking; we were forced into it against our will; we have no choice but to continue it.

A most remarkable element of his character was his universal good will. Personal hatred was unknown to him. Malice and revenge were foreign to his nature. The South and her real interests were not carried in any heart more tenderly than in his. The cost of the terrible struggle weighed down his soul with sorrow. Kindly in judgment, or refusing to judge, charitable toward all, refusing to notice personal injury, yet with firmness in the right as God gave him to see the right, this kind, honest, strong soul mastered men and issues and saved the nation.

God and nature fitted this great soul to bear an unbearable burden. What he was, determined the way in which he lived, how he met the issues of his day, and decreed his death. Freedom and slavery, fundamentally and eternally unreconcilable, were in deadly conflict. By every quality of mind and heart he was destined to be the protagonist of freedom. His essential nature and character were his destiny. Upon him was to be laid the crushing burden of this conflict. Into his soul and finally into his body, he was to receive the cruel hatred of this doomed institution, that by his sacrifice, the Union might be preserved, the black man freed and the spirit of slavery eradicated.

I have said that freedom and slavery are irreconcilable and thus that this conflict was inevitable. His character destined him to champion the cause of freedom and lead its forces. The essential nature of slavery destined its champion to unwonted cruelties and finally to strike down his life. It was not a man, but slavery and the spirit of slavery that murdered the president. It did this because of its essential nature. The very essence of slavery is a selfish disregard for the personality, the rights and the well-being of others. And those who disregard the personality of the black man, will disregard the personality of the white man, under greater provocation. The essential spirit of slavery transferred from the black man to the white man was manifest in the treatment of our soldiers in southern prisons. It is but a step from trampling upon the rights of a black man to trampling upon the rights of a white man. If one is not held sacred, the other will not long remain so. The spirit which enslaved the black man, drew blood from his back with the lash, tore families asunder and sold him as other animals, that same spirit turned southern prisons into hells and that same spirit murdered Abraham Lincoln.

Spirit of Slavery Still With Us.

Why do I mention these things? Because the spirit of slavery is still with us and we need to understaud its essential nature. No! Be not deceived. Slavery and the spirit of slavery are not dead, in either North or South. So long as we hold any man inferior because of the color of his skin, so long as godless prejudice and injustice exist, so long as we selfisnly use other men, white or black, for our own gratification, regardless of their rights and well-being, so long as the personality and well-being of any man, of any race, of any color, is disrespected, depend upon it, the essential spirit of slavery still exists.

In 1908 there was an increase of fifty per cent over 1907 in the number of lynchings. Men are lynched mainly because they are black but with provocation it includes whites. Last year 100 were lynched; 93 colored and 7 white. Only 12

CONGER

of the 93 were lynched because of criminal assault. Black men were lynched on such charges as "offensive language", "suspicion of arson", "insulting white woman", and "mistaken identity". In Georgia a white man kidnapped a young woman of prominent family, assaulted her, and was let off with one year in prison. A colored man, afterward proved innocent, was put to death by a mob for alleged criminal assault.

Does this tend to disprove that the same spirit will destroy a white man on larger provocation? I admit the provocation must usually be greater. But seven whites were lynched; and listen! Have you heard of the night-riders and their atrocious crimes It is the same disrespect for personality and rights that lynched the negroes and whites, which, with nothing but economic conditions as aggravation, led the night-riders to murder innocent men. It is this same spirit which ruins child lives through child labor in southern cotton mills and Pennsylvania coal mines. The essential spirit of slavery is the spirit of selfishness; and murder is the result of selfishness under increased provocation. The spirit of slavery is the spirit of pride ruling the world, clouding vision and dulling conscience. Slavery is brute force asserting the right to crush those weaker because it has the power to do so. Slavery means a false view of God and man and life. And this, whether it takes the form of placing another race in servitude or of selfishly disregarding the rights and well-being of any man. In the spirit of slavery is hidden away all the cruelties of the worst despotism; all the crime and lawlessness which curse the human race. I sometimes wonder if the reason slavery was permitted to kill the president was not, that its essential nature might be forever known.

Lived In Hour of Crisis.

Abraham Lincoln lived at one of the great crisis hours of the world. He lived at a time when the battle between freedom and slavery plunged the nation into civil war. It was a battle for independence, individual and national, a battle to determine whether or not the words of our Independence Declaration that, "All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness", should have meaning or be meaningless. And that battle did not end with the civil war. It has been going on in every life, by every fireside, in every social, political, industrial, religious and educational movement of the ages. Its essential spirit is simply that selfishness which will not seek to live the golden rule, which denies brotherhood in actual life. Wherever one would rise at the expense of or by disregarding the rights of others, there you have the spirit of slavery, and that spirit is with us in abundance.

The spirit of slavery still exists in North and South with reference to the negro. There are not wanting indications that that spirit is on the increase. Let us not play with the fire; for if we permit that spirit to grow it can only end where it ended before, which was in the hell of war. There is no settlement of the race question except upon the plane of life where we treat men, regardless of color, as God treats them. No matter how much we may praise Abraham Lincoln, every manifestation of this spirit of slavery is a dishonor to his memory.

Industrial Democracy Needed.

Another manifestation of this spirit of slavery is in that devlish Anglo-Saxon pride, which scorns the oriental. There would not be time to catalogue all the forms in which this monster breaks forth; they are as numerous as the ways in which appetite, passion, greed and selfishness seek to gain their ends at the expense of others. But the storm center about which the battle between freedom and slavery is raging most fiercely in this country today, is the industrial situation. We have succeeded fairly well in democratizing the school, the church and our political institutions. But finally we shall succeed in maintaining democracy in these about to the extent that we are able to establish and maintain industrial democracy. An industrial aristocracy will threaten every democratic institution in our land with extinction. And some system of profit sharing or other method of cooperation, which will more equitable distribute the wealth of the land, is necessary if we would escape industrial aristocracy on the one hand and its counterpart, which is industrial servitude on the other. Among both employers and employed there are many who are working for freedom and industrial democracy. And among employers and employed are many who are working toward some kind of industrial slavery and against industrial democracy. The former have the spirit of freedom; the latter have the spirit of slavery. The former would exalt all men, would respect the personality and seek the well-being of all, so far as this is in their power; the latter would exalt self at the expense of others, disregarding their personality and their rights.

The spirit of freedom, which he embodied, which he manifest, and for which he laid down his life and the spirit of slavery, which revealed its essential nature in taking away his life, can never be reconciled. Between these is raging the one real battle of existence. Any worthy celebration of his anniversary must not stop short of consecrating our lives to the spirit of freedom. To this consecration his beautiful, strong, noble life, his message on the battle field of Gettysburg and his sacrificial death imperatively call. By all that our fathers and mothers have sacrificed to make and keep this country the "land of the free" are we bound to "highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation shall under God have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Whittier has voiced this imperative call in strong and beautiful poetic phrase:

"Our fathers to their graves have gone;
Their strife is past—their triumph won;
But sterner trials wait the race
Which rises in their honored place—
A moral warfare with the crime
And folly of an evil time.
So let it be. In God's own might
We gird us for the common fight,
And, strong in him whose cause is ours
In conflict with unholy powers,
We grasp the weapons He has given—
The light, the truth and love of heaven."

LINCOLN

By WILLIAM HENRY SHELTON

PRESIDENT LINCOLN was not always a fashionably dressed man, or even a correctly dressed man, like President Arthur or President Roosevelt, but he was never a shabbily dressed man. In the matter of his dress he has been misunderstood and maligned. Circumstances were against him. He began his career in Washington in a stovepipe hat and ended it in a stovepipe hat. If he had lived to a period that used a hat of different pattern we should have in the mind's eye a different vision of Lincoln. Sometimes, as I remember him, he was a very handsomely dressed man.

On a never-to-be-forgotten day in the Winter of 1861, as a youthful artillery sergeant I was dragging an unhooked sabre along the sidewalk of Pennsylvania Avenue in the shadow of the dome of the Capitol (which was a cheese-box instead of a dome). I was dressed in an ill-fitting uniform, the high collar of the woolen jacket stiff with cheap scarlet braid crowding my ears up against my regulation cap, which was lopping forward under the weight of cross-guns and brass letters—a very fierce and harmless figure, except in my own estimation. I halted in my progress and leaned on my sabre to observe an approaching carriage.

The carriage was an open victoria, beautifully horsed, with two men on the box, and seated in it was a tall, sedate, fashionably dressed gentleman wrapped to his chin in a blue chinchilla overcoat and wearing a high but very fashionable silk hat. The tall gentleman was smiling and chatting with a little boy standing between his knees.

The tall, faultlessly dressed gentleman in the handsome carriage was President Lincoln and the boy between his knees was little Tad.

Four years before the Presidential carriage drove down Pennsylvania Avenue on that Winter morning in 1861 a lumbering stage-coach had driven into Springfield, Ill., on a Summer evening. Lawyer Thomas, who rode the circuit with Abraham Lincoln, alighted at his door, leaving Mr. Lincoln seated in the stage. The little son of the lawyer who rode the circuit with Abraham Lincoln saw Mr. Lincoln for the first time.

Historically Grotesque

"Daddy," the boy said, "who is that homely man in the stage?"

"My son," the father replied, "that man is Abraham Lincoln, and he is not a homely man. When he addresses a jury he is the handsomest man I ever saw."

And yet President Lincoln has passed into history as an unnecessarily shabby and grotesque figure. As time passes the sublimity of his character will become more sublime, while his figure will take on more grotesquery. It is the way of the world. History crystallizes and amplifies the oddities of its favorites. The kindly hand of oblivion that softens harsh features and clothes the angles of ruins with moss will never abbreviate or soften or eliminate Abraham Lincoln's stovepipe hat.

His stovepipe hat was the hat of the period; it was the pride of Fifth Avenue and of Mayfair and of the boulevards. Young men dropped in on their hatters to have it brushed and doffed its bulk impressively to the ladies, whose hats were inverted tea-saucers. If the silk hat in vogue from 1861 to 1865 had only had a bell crown and a graceful roll of rim like the familiar hat of John Bull, or like that of any three-bottle squire of the last half of the eighteenth century, we should see pictured a different Lincoln.

One need only to recall the Drinkwater play to realize the average Englishman's idea of how Lincoln looked. A playwright exaggerates the peculiarities of his characters for dramatic effect, which is legitimate, but not always kind. In this play the hero walks the stage as a sort of benevolent rail-splitter in a rusty stovepipe hat and store clothes.

Lincoln, alive, would have approved the play's striking figure of General Grant, and the fine impersonation of General Lee in his handsome gray uniform; but he would never have known General Meade in long iron-gray whiskers, nor that aide from Appomattox in the frock coat and sash and belt of an infantry officer dressed for Sunday inspection—a man who couldn't ride a horse. He knew those dashing young aides who rode with the Army of the Potomac in gold laced French forage caps, natty jackets with Russian shoulder knots, corduroy breeches bleached gray-white after many washings, high boots and Mexican spurs, and whose swords were always lashed under the skirts of their saddles.

It was the City of Washington in 1861 that was shabby and picturesque and primitive. The streets, where paved at all, were paved with cobblestones and rutted by army wagons and torn up by gun carriages. On every corner of Pennsylvania Avenue, from the White House to the Capitol, a cavalryman sat on his sleepy horse, holding a lance from which a red pennon fluttered or drooped. His solitary figure was usually relieved against a wooden tree guard covered by posters gaudy with splotches of color and spread eagles and Uncle Sams, calling for recruits.

Brigadier Generals in yellow sashes and belts and Western officers in wool hats and feathers jingled their spurs and rattled their sabres along the pavements, elbowing soldiers of every grade and arm. Endless trains of canvas-covered army wagons, each drawn by six mules guided by a jerk line from the off saddle wheel-mule, in charge of the blackest of contrabands, trailed through streets that were choked with dust or splashed with mud, and four-horse teams floundered through quagmires, their flanks protected by grain sacks from the swish of their muddy tails.

The neighborhood of the Capitol was piled with blocks of granite and empty flour barrels from the great bakery in its basement. Soldiers from the camps swarmed through the rotunda and the halls of Congress, the Botanical Gardens, the National Hotel, the Smithsonian Institution, the Patent Office, and ended the day in front of a marble counter at Harvey's, where each soldier disposed of a peck of steamed oysters.

Others stood in line outside the canvas booths of photographers awaiting their turn to be tintyped with a sword in one hand and a pistol in the other, the rings on their fingers and the buckles on their caps touched up with gilt—the portrait to be sent home to fond mothers.

In the Army of the Potomac we saw Mr. Lincoln occasionally, but he was always in the stovepipe hat that somehow suggested that its crown held a big bandana handkerchief and other conveniences. In the lovely April weather before the Chancellorsville campaign the President, Mrs. Lincoln and little Tad were the guests of General Hooker during nearly a week of reviews.

On April 9 the First Corps passed in review before the President, but he rode down the line before us first. (All these reviews took place on a broad plain two miles back of Falmouth and near general headquarters.) Mr. Lincoln was mounted that day on a spirited bay horse, which sometimes galloped and sometimes trotted at the right hand of General Hooker.

Like a Circuit Rider

He was kept busy returning the salutes of the troops by removing his stovepipe hat, which seemed to be most of the time in his hand. He was equipped for the saddle very much like the aide from Appomattox in the Drinkwater play. Probably his trousers were strapped down. His broadcloth coat was covered with dust, which in the distance made it look like alpaca; its long skirts and the stovepipe hat suggested a Methodist circuit rider among the brilliantly uniformed staff.

I was in Washington on the day of the great tragedy. I was spinning out the last days of a month's leave, after a long imprisonment. My battery lay at City Point. It was almost a year since I had seen it. I had intended to go to Ford's Theatre that evening, but with a sudden impulse I took the afternoon boat to City Point, where I arrived on Saturday.

On Sunday morning Major Breck, commanding the battery, invited me to ride with him to Petersburg. Not a word of the tragedy had reached City Point. It must have been 10 o'clock when we started, after Sunday morning inspection. Returning, it must have been past noon when, midway between Petersburg and City Point, we met a man running

Shelton, William Henry

REED

—bareheaded and in shirt-sleeves—who told us that President Lincoln had been shot.

Abraham Lincoln was a great figure, passing across the world stage at the middle of the nineteenth century. It is something to have seen him—something to have on the hilt of one's sabre a rusty knot of that crape that was ordered there by the War Department for sixty days.

SHERMAN PRAISES LINCOLN

TALKS AT PITTSBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DINNER.

NOT A "CHILD OF DESTINY"

Vice President-Elect Declares Great Liberator Was an American Boy and a Man of America—Liberty of a Race the Stake Played For.

1505

Pittsburg, Feb. 12.—Vice President-elect James S. Sherman, of New York, was the principal speaker at the Chamber of Comerce dinner at the Hotel Schenley here tonight. About 400 guests attended the dinner and listened to an address on "The Ship Subsidy" by Congressman James E. Watson, of Indiana, and to James Scarlet, who conducted the investigation into the graft charges in connection with the Pennsylvania state capitol, who spoke on "The Day We Celebrate."

Mr. Sherman responded to the toast "Abraham Lincoln."

"Abraham Lincoln," said Mr. Sherman, "was not a child of destiny, but an American boy, a man of America. When Lincoln was discovered and nominated," he said, "not as the unquestioned choice of all the people, but rather of the minority of a party the greatest American, but his individuality was greater than his personality," and this he said was because he had with him "that stern, unyielding sense of duty. Gentle beyond compare, patient beyond belief, his country and his duty were his creed, and to that end he labored unceasingly and suffered patiently. It was that sentiment, 'Our Country,' which guided him. He gave himself with reserve, for that country, his rare talents, his immeasureable love, his remarkable sagacity, his life. All—the minority made the majority apparently by means of politcal tactics—the situation was far different from that which confronted Washington. The nation was rent asunder, opinion was divided and a grave constitutional question was involved. In the south the dark cloud of secession had already appeared, while in the north there were mutterings of sympathy. Men were being persecuted for their beliefs; the right of freedom of thought and expression was questioned and a whirlpool of discord and dissension was gathering. It threatened to engulf the nation in its mighty rush." At such a moment, he said, Lincoln was brought forward.

Untried and Unknown.

"Lincoln," he said, "had none of the advantages of encouragement of many of his predecessors. He was untried, almost unknown. The crisis was approaching; he must meet it or fall. That is the situation pictured by the afterlights and surely by intuition or inspiration he so viewed it. Not the liberty of the defenders of the stars and stripes which floated victoriously over Bunker Hill and Saratoga and Bennington and Oriskamy was at stake, but the liberty of a race foreign to the country—a race brought here for bondage or reared in slavery. Was it worth fighting for? Many in the north said no. Was it a question which could be constitutionally acted upon? The entire south said no, and then Abraham Lincoln, with dignity, with firmness, and with a spirit which could have been inspired only of God, grasped the helm of the ship of state and pointed its course directly into the teeth of the storm.

"His proclamation of emancipation unforged the fetters of the slaves, united the north, sent a thrill of joy and patriotism in reverberation over the land until the hundreds of thousands of boys in blue swore by their flag and by their country that slavery should cease and that their nation should be reunited though it was cemented with blood."

The Greatest American.

"The appearance of Lincoln," said Mr. Sherman, "was at the most critical time in the nation's history. He met his responsibilities superbly," he declared, "gentle, mild, and forebearing, his private and official careers are filled with pictures of prose and poetry which throw about him a charm most delicate and delightful. His homely, quaint humor brightens with age and will never be disassociated with his name or copied by another."

"Lincoln," he said," "was perhaps were freely laid upon the altar, home and country."

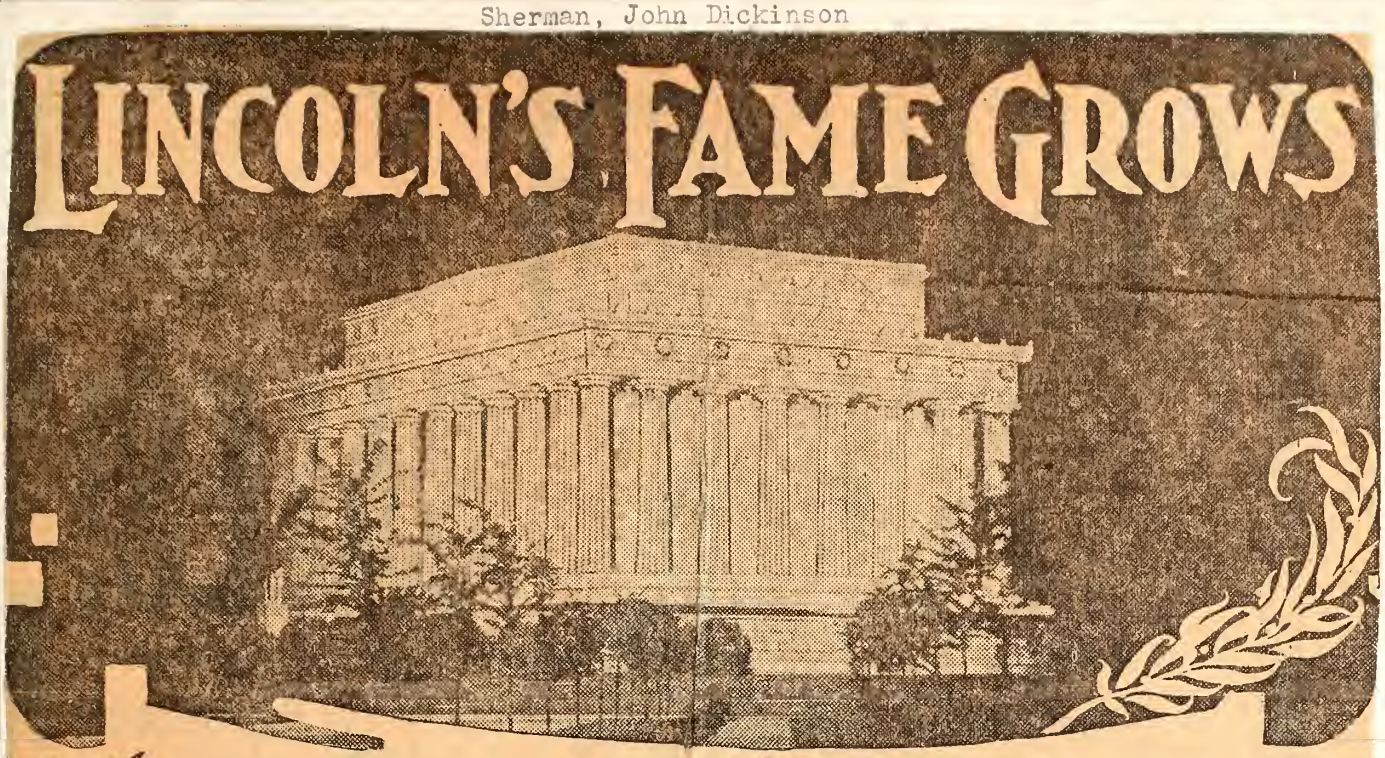
During the afternoon the vice president-elect spoke briefly at the convocation exercises of the University of Pittsburg at Carnegie hall.

Sherman, James S.

J WRIGHT

Sherman, John Dickinson

LINCOLN'S FAME GROWS



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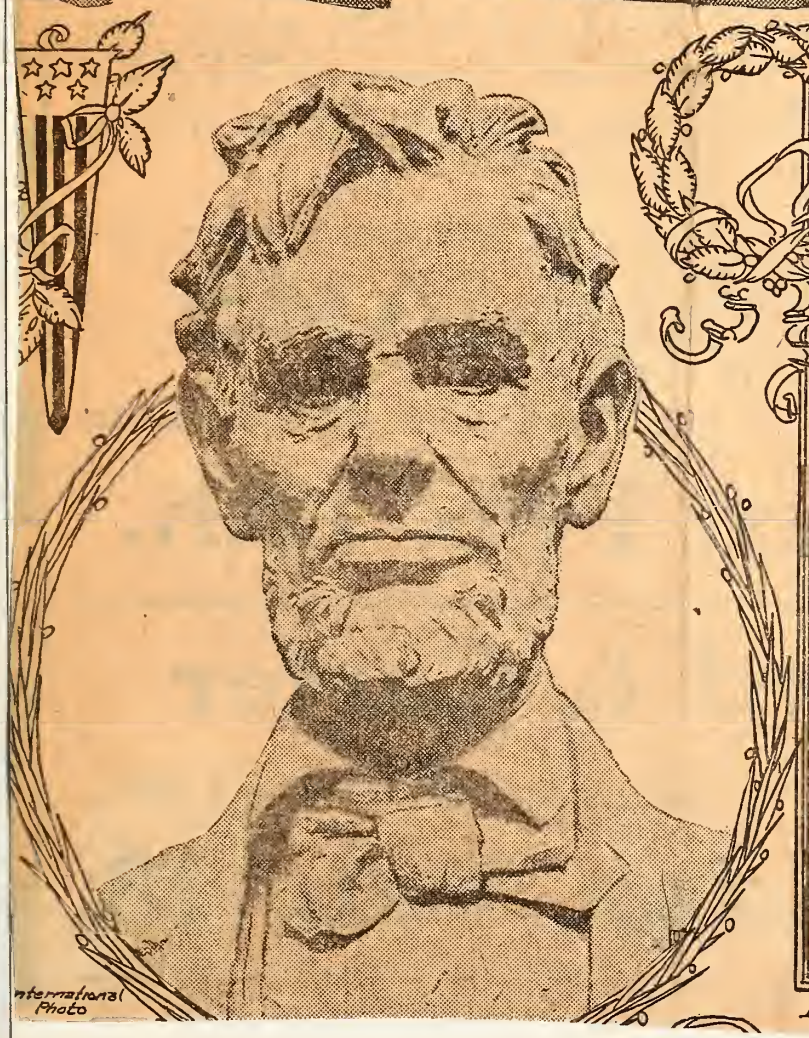

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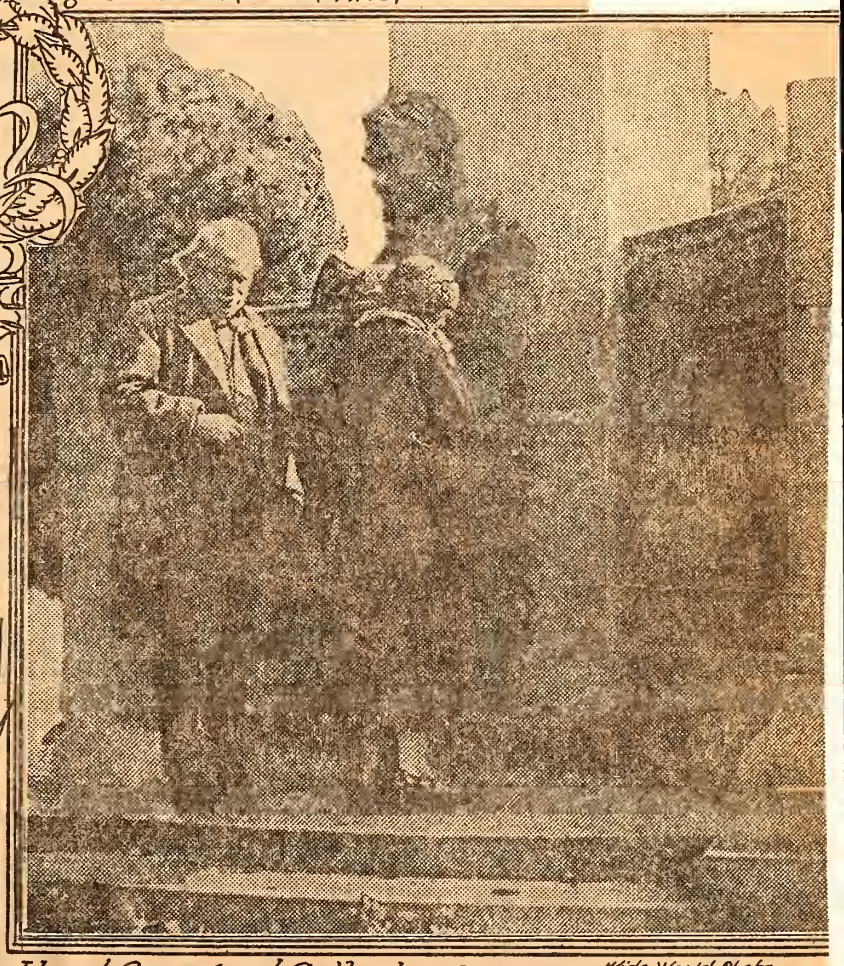


Lloyd George at Gettysburg

Wide World Photo

WRIGHT

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

LINCOLN'S fame grows. Great as it was last year, it is greater this year. Great as it is this year, it will be greater next year. Each new anniversary of his birth brings new tributes from all mankind. For, though Lincoln was wholly and solely American, he has long since ceased to belong wholly and solely to America. He now belongs to all the world.

When Sherman marched "From Atlanta to the Sea" and rain and flood and darkness in the heart of the enemy's country slowed down the straggling lines of dispirited men, some wily veteran would start up this marching song:

John Brown's body lies a-moulderin' in the grave
But his soul goes marching on.
Glory, glory, halleluiah!

Never did this marching song fail. Ever did the marching men take it up. Plodding feet fell into step. The straggling lines closed up. And as the mighty chorus rolled forth rain and flood and darkness were forgotten in the magic of this song.

Lincoln's name has the same magic—and more—for all men. His soul goes marching on and will go marching on when John Brown and the marching song that thrilled Lincoln's Boys in Blue have been forgotten. Groping in the world-wreckage of these latter days for something that can be trusted as safe and sound and lasting, mankind turns anew the pages of Lincoln's wondrous story and thrills to renewed courage and hope and endeavor.

The case of Stanton is typical. Stanton, the lawyer, had treated Lincoln, the lawyer, brutally, with intentional insult. Yet because Stanton was a strong man, a hard man, an able man, Lincoln made him his secretary of war. Stanton took the place with a smile up his sleeve at the irony of it and with the resolve to control both Lincoln and the cabinet. In the early days of the war when Lincoln would send men to Stanton with a request they would often come back with the statement, "Stanton says you are a d—d fool." And Lincoln would smile and say, "Well, then I probably am. Stanton is nearly always right." But the greater greatness of the great president wore down the lesser greatness of the great secretary. In the end Lincoln had no more appreciative admirer, no more loyal supporter. And when the assassin's bullet had done its work it was Stanton at Lincoln's bedside who voiced the verdict of mankind:

Now he belongs to the ages.

When Lincoln was elected president he was "damned with faint praise" even by the friendly press. He was honest, it said, and well intentioned. Those who should have known better believed him controlled by his cabinet. Seward and Chase and Stanton not only quarreled among themselves, but would have quarreled with Lincoln had that been possible. Prominent senators of his own party turned disloyal. Generals in the field were little better. The North was full of self-constituted saviors, who snapped at Lincoln's heels. No president was ever so reviled. He was denounced as a tyrant and ridiculed as an imbecile. He was hanged in effigy. Caricature and lampoon were exhausted to defame him. Finally, in the campaign for his re-election his enemies in the North nominated General Fremont with the avowed purpose of defeating him.

Lincoln met this storm of criticism and assault as the captain of a modern superdreadnaught drives through the tumult of the gale. He never once changed his course, for his genius had pointed out the true course which must be followed. And all through the storm the people had confidence in him. They overwhelmingly re-elected him.

At last the end came. The roar of battle died away. There was peace once more. But he saw only in part the fruition of his great purpose. He died in the moment of triumph, with doubter and detractor silenced and the cheers of rejoicing in his ears. The nation wept in inconsolable grief. But it did not then realize all that it had lost. Now the judgment of history is making plain the magnitude of that loss.

"Now he belongs to the ages!" The first great conqueror of all history with the open hand and not the mailed fist. A civilian, born of the common people and rightfully claimed as their very own. The tenderest soul which ever saved a nation by the sword. A patriot who gave no thought to self. But a world-conqueror, for though dead he yet commands the admiration, the respect and the love of all mankind.

The Christian gentleman and patriotic American whom death called last year will speak no more to us of his illustrious predecessor. On the last anniversary he spoke at a Lincoln memorial dinner in Washington in behalf of Lincoln Memorial university at Cumberland Gap, Tenn. And he showed his own quality by his appreciation of Lincoln's qualities. Here are words which should be long remembered:

"No human story surpasses the fascination and the inspiration of that of Abraham Lincoln. The Republic pays tribute tonight and most of the world is doing him reverence because in his unshaken faith the world finds its own hopes mightily strengthened. Our words are all feeble because we are dealing with the master martyr, the supreme leader in a national crisis, the surpassing believer in a fulfilled destiny, and a colossal figure among the hero-statesmen of all the ages.

"One cannot but have observed how greatly the thoughts of people have turned to this man of vision, the great emancipator, who spoke with the voice of the common people for truth and for freedom. One cannot have failed to note that as the fortunes of mankind have confronted tribulation and distress the minds of men have turned to this son of the yearning, eager, earnest, simple people, and have sought in the story of his life for guidance in the hour of humanity's trial. To me this has been a portent of hope, a justification of faith, a reason for confidence that men will not only guide the bark of civilization through the storms which beset it, but will at last bring it into the port of a better and happier day.

"It does not seem hard to understand why in times like these in which we live there should be such a renascence of sentiment for Lincoln, of renewed interest in the great lessons of his life. For men have come to think of him as they have not thought of others among the merely human characters of history. Lincoln has appealed to them as one who manifestly was brought forth with the destiny or consecrated by an infinite hand to render a particular service, to save a nation, to emancipate a people, to preserve in the world the fruits of the American experiment in and for democracy.

"Surely it is not strange that the eyes and the interest of a world should turn to him now, when all mankind feels the need for such leadership and service and direction as he gave. A world, a civilization, an epoch—all these are facing the bitter need for the moral purpose, the noble aspirations, the high courage that he interpreted to our America in the days of its crisis. More, humanity itself needs to drink of the cup of unfailing confidence which enabled him to stand erect and unshaken amid discouragements and criticism which would have crushed any less than a master heart and soul.

"In very truth his soul is marching on. To him it has been given to leave a living heritage of vital power and supreme inspiration to the race. Out of Lincoln came the proof that lofty achievement is not in ideals alone, but in that spiritual and material justice which is the wholesome blending of infinite purpose and man's capacity for fulfillment.

"We are coming year by year to a more truthful and understanding appraisal of him. But all the researches of scholars and efforts of students have brought us little store of real understanding, have taught

Sherman, John D.

us well-nigh nothing concerning the supreme providential purpose which permits such a light to shine now and then upon a generation of men. We know not whence come such great souls, such simple wisdom, such capacity for sacrifice and service. But we do know that as men contemplate this strange career and study its wonders and its lessons, they are at least planting in their minds and hearts a certain vague realization of what Lincoln was and meant; a consciousness of his personal significance to them; and with all this a keen aspiration for some little participation in such a bestowal of selflessness, sacrifice and service as was the life of Lincoln. That aspiration, I firmly believe, is fixed in a greater number of human hearts today than it ever was before. It may be somewhat vague and unformed yet we readily recognize that it represents something like the aspirations of a race for a new incarnation of the spirit and the leadership of Lincoln."

David Lloyd George, war-time premier of Great Britain, last fall laid a wreath on the catafalque in the Lincoln tomb at Springfield. Later he, with his daughter, stood with bared head in front of the Gettysburg Speech memorial on Gettysburg battlefield. And these are some of the things he said in a public address:

"There have been great men whose lives constitute part of the history of the world; there are a few whose lives have become part of the legends of humanity. These are the greatest, and Lincoln's name will ever remain conspicuous amongst these. His fame is wider today than it was at the date of his death and it is still widening. His influence is deeper and it is still deepening.

"He was one of those rare men whom you do not associate with any particular creed, party or even country. He belongs to the human race in every clime, land and age.

"There are the great men of a party, or of a creed. There are great men of their time, and there are great men of all time for their own native land, but Lincoln was a great man of all time for all parties and for all lands.

"His example and his wise sayings are the inheritance of mankind and will be quoted and used to save it from its follies to the end of ages.

"The lessons of his statesmanship are as applicable today as they were sixty years ago. They will be as applicable a thousand years hence as they are today. Being dead, he still speaks his message of moment for this present hour.

"Lincoln is the finest product in the realm of statesmanship of the Christian civilization, and the wise counsel he gave to his own people in the day of this triumph he also gives today to the people of Europe in the hour of their victory over the forces that menaced their liberties."

No monument can honor Abraham Lincoln, though loving hearts and reverent hands have raised many a memorial. But the American people have honored themselves in the Lincoln Memorial at Washington. See that white marble shrine at night in the beam of a million-candle-power searchlight—and come away a better American!

Should you chance to be in the Hotel Savoy in London, you will of course visit the new Lincoln room. There you will see the original of the bust here pictured. It was presented last year by T. P. (Tay Pay) O'Connor in celebration of his seventy-fifth birthday. The bust calls to mind Douglas Malloch's fine lines:

If I should carve a Lincoln, I would take
  No snow-white marble, but a rugged rock,
One that the frosts of winter could not break,
  That had withstood the ocean's thundering shock,
Some solid rock amid the shifting sands
  Unmoved by storm, unaltered by the wave,
Some granite giant that forever stands
  To mark the harbor, with a light to save.

Sherman, Senator

Senator Sherman on Lincoln.

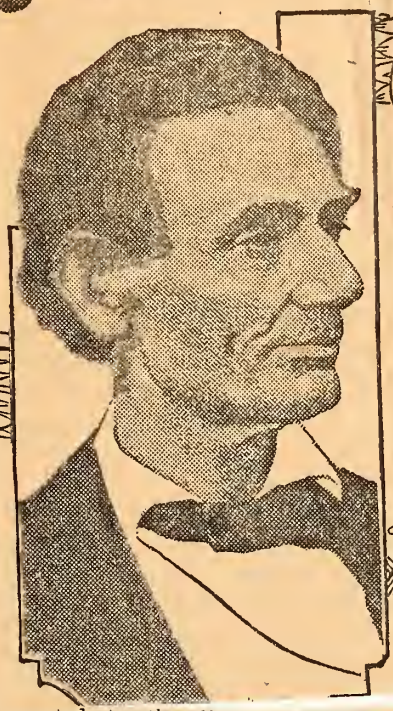
From The Louisville Courier-Journal.

Senator Sherman of Ohio in a speech at Sandusky, during the campaign for Lincoln's re-election, in the Fall of 1864, drew this rough but accurate outline of the lamented President's character:

"I know Old Abe: and I tell you there is not, at this hour, a more patriotic or a truer man living than that man, Abraham Lincoln. Some say he is an imbecile, but he not only held his own in his debates with Douglas, whose power is admitted, and whom I consider the ablest intellect in the United States Senate, but got a little the better of him. He has been deliberate and slow, but when he puts his foot down, it is with the determination and certainty with which our Generals take their steps; and, like them, when he takes a city he never gives up. This firm old man is noble and kind hearted. He is a child of the people. Go to him with a story of woe, and he will weep like a child. This man, so condemned, works more hours than any other President that ever occupied the chair. His solicitude for the public welfare is never-ceasing. I differed from him at first myself, but at last felt and believed that he was right, and shall vote for this brave, true, patriotic, kind-hearted man. All his faults and mistakes you have seen. All his virtues you can never know. His patience in labor is wonderful. He works far harder than any man in Erie County. At the head of this great Nation—look at it! He has all the bills to sign passed by Congress. No one can be appointed to any office without his approval. No one can be punished without the judgment receives his signature, and no one pardoned without his hand. This man—always right, always just—we propose to re-elect now to the Presidency."

Sherman, John Dickinson

LINCOLN: Many Kinds of Man



2.12 1921

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN.

HOUSE Resolution 621, introduced by Representative James Gideon Monahan of Wisconsin, authorizes the painting of a full-length portrait of Abraham Lincoln and the placing of it in the hall of the house of representatives. If Mr. Monahan's resolution goes through, the portrait painter selected to make the portrait may well feel proud over his selection. But few real artists will be envious of him.

For Abraham Lincoln was so many kinds of man that his physical body produced widely differing impressions, even upon those accustomed to his presence and familiar with the many-sidedness of his character. Moreover, the whole civilized world has now come to revere and love the name of Lincoln and will be satisfied with nothing less than a great achievement by the painter of this portrait.

This is the moral of the recent controversy over the statue of Lincoln erected in London. It will be remembered that the British government set apart a site related to the house of parliament and Westminster Abbey for this statue. A controversy arose over the choice between two statues. The plain truth is that there was a feeling that one of these statues fell far short of doing Lincoln justice. The British government asked the United States department of state to settle the controversy. The department of state referred the question to the commission of fine arts. The commission reported to the British government that the "man and site call for a statue representative of the highest achievement of the American sculptor" and advised Great Britain that "such is the statue of Abraham Lincoln executed by Augustus Saint-Gaudens and erected in Lincoln park, Chicago." The British government accepted the report of the commission.

The world does not want a handsome Lincoln, but it does insist upon an impressive Lincoln and will tolerate no suggestion of the grotesque or the inefficient.

Lincoln well knew the wide variation of impressions his appearance and actions produced. No doubt he grieved over it. But his philosophy rose superior and his course was set according to his declaration:

"If I were to try to read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed to all other business. I do the very best I know how—the very best I can; and I mean to keep on doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference."

This variance of impression produced by Lincoln upon even the same beholder is well illustrated by what Col. Richard J. Bright, long an official of the United States senate, once said:

"No sculptor has told the story and no artist has recorded the drama-comedy-tragedy revealed in the features of that meteor of humanity and spirituality which flashed its brightest iridescence on the field of Gettysburg.

"I saw Abraham Lincoln when I believed him to be the homeliest creature in human form ever permitted to cumber this earth by walking and talking with the statesmen of our republic.

"I saw Abraham Lincoln on the platform engaged in earnest discussion of then current topics and I believed him to be the most forceful character ever

J WRIGHT

known in the American political arena.

"I saw Abraham Lincoln keyed up to righteous wrath on the subject of human slavery and I regarded him as a singularly lofty demon of immense proportions, stirring strife between the sections of our sacred union of confederated states.

"I saw Abraham Lincoln administering justice in military and naval affairs, when he seemed to be a composite incarnation of Julius Caesar and the hero of Trafalgar.

"I saw Abraham Lincoln in the White House tenderly offering to a mother mercy for her condemned son sentenced to death by court martial saw him revoking the doctrine of 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, substituting for it the new commandment 'that ye love one another,' and I believed his face to be the most awe-inspiringly beautiful cameo ever cut by Almighty God to demonstrate that Omnipotence had 'created man in His own image,' and then sent His Son to say concerning mortal man:—'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'

"Future generations cannot see Abraham Lincoln in marble, in bronze, nor on canvas, for no human being can portray him with chisel nor with brush."

If the time, place and occasion of this proposed portrait of Lincoln were left to a vote of the American people, what would it choose? There certainly is a wealth of suggestive occasions.

Take, for instance, the debates of 1858 between Lincoln and Douglas, on which in reality the fate of the nation largely hung. Vice President Marshall, when a boy of four, heard the Freeport debate and was on the platform. He says:

"While Mr. Lincoln was talking I sat on the knees of Senator Douglas, and he never said one word to me; just held me. When it came his turn to talk I sat on the knees of Lincoln. He asked my name, my age, where I lived, whether I knew my A, B, C's, whether I had a puppy dog or not, and all sorts of questions of a kind to interest a little boy."

At the Charleston debate Douglas made the mistake of indirectly accusing Lincoln of disloyalty by referring to the old story that he had voted against appropriations for the soldiers in the war with Mexico. Sitting on the platform as chairman of the Douglas committee was Colonel Orlando B. Ficklin. As soon as it came his turn to speak Mr. Lincoln grabbed him by the shoulders, dragged him to the front of the platform and shouted to the audience:

"I am not going to hurt Ficklin, but I am going to make him tell the truth to this audience about that ten-year-old lie which Judge Douglas has brought up again. Ficklin was a member of congress when I was, he knows the truth, and he must tell it."

And Ficklin did.

Take the occasions of Lincoln's farewell to his Springfield neighbors when he left for Washington to assume the presidency.

Take the occasion of Lincoln's second inaugural, when he uttered the words: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness for the right, as God gives us to see the right."

But in all probability Lincoln at Gettysburg touched his highest with the written and spoken word. It was a great assemblage of the wisest and best of the nation. Edward Everett, statesman, patriot and orator, was the speaker of the day. He delivered a long, eloquent and notable address.

Then President Lincoln arose and said just 257 words.

Those 257 words were not appreciated at the time. They were drowned by Everett's flood of eloquence. Today Everett's oration is known only to students. Today Lincoln's 257 words have been committed to memory by the world.

Do not think for one minute that Lincoln's Gettysburg address was a happy incident. His letters, his debates, his speeches—all his papers—proclaim his mastery of the written and spoken word.

Nevertheless, Lincoln's Gettysburg address is in a sense the sublimation of all that he wrote and said. It is the utterance of a great soul aroused to expression by a great occasion. It touches the heart. It satisfies the brain. It is Abraham Lincoln himself.

Lloyd George, in his tribute to Lincoln at the unveiling of the Lincoln statue last August near Westminster Abbey, used these words:

"I am not sure that you in America realize the extent to which he is also our possession and our pride. . . . In his life he was a great American. He is an American no longer. He is one of those giant figures, of whom there are very few in history, who lose their nationality in death. They are no longer Greek or Hebrew or English or American—they belong to mankind. I wonder whether I will be forgiven for saying that George Washington was a great American, but Abraham Lincoln belongs to the common people of every land."

True, but wordy! The same thing was said better long ago.

There was a great lawyer who despised Lincoln, who had reviled and insulted him. But Lincoln knew his ability and his patriotism and took him into his cabinet as his war secretary. The man entered the cabinet, expecting and intending to run the government.

Truly had Lincoln said, "with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington." That task was to prevent the Union from splitting in twain, to bring back the seceding states by force of arms, and to reunite a divided country half slave and half free.

How Lincoln accomplished a part of that task we all know. In 1865 Lee surrendered at Appomattox and the armed resistance of the Confederacy was at an end. And during those four momentous years this war secretary, who had despised and reviled and insulted Lincoln, had quickly come to appreciate and love Lincoln and to obey him.

Six days after Lee's surrender at Appomattox Lincoln's further accomplishment of his task was cut short by the assassin's bullet. And as Abraham Lincoln's eyelids closed in death his great war secretary, Edwin M. Stanton, stepped forward and spoke the proved judgment of humanity:

"Now he belongs to the ages."

Sherwood, Robert E.

The Captains and the Kings Depart, but Lincoln Lives On, Vibrantly

Robert Emmet Sherwood, who tells here why he thinks Lincoln's spirit lives today, is one of America's foremost playwrights and author of one of the most successful dramas current on Broadway, Abe Lincoln in Illinois. He has been a student of Lincolniana for many years; thinks perhaps he was first attracted to the great emancipator because of Lincoln's great height. Sherwood, himself, is 6 feet 4.

2/12/39

BY ROBERT E. SHERWOOD

Written for the Associated Press Feature Service

"MY FRIENDS—I have only to say, let us discard all this quibbling about this man and the other man, this race and that race and the other race being inferior, and therefore must be placed in an inferior position. Let us discard all these things, and unite as one people throughout this land, until we shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal."

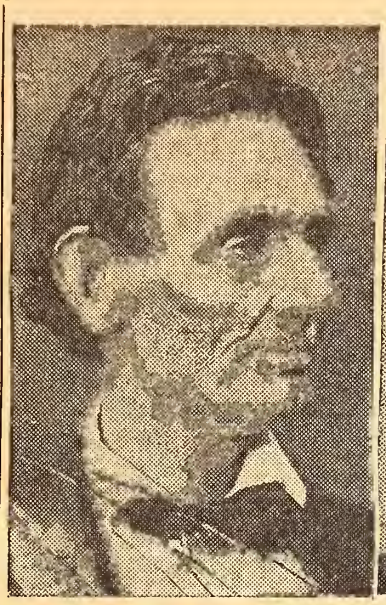
When Abraham Lincoln spoke those words, in Chicago, 80 years ago, the audience, composed of his fellow citizens of Illinois, rose up and cheered. A gathering of Americans would cheer the same words today, even though they didn't know that the speaker was Abraham Lincoln. For this homely man expressed in his time the whole, eternal spirit of the country in which he was born and grew to greatness.

He Said It All

Of all the great men who have lived and died upon this earth, Lincoln is the one who is most completely, vibrantly alive today. The captains and the kings have indeed departed, and been buried deep. The Caesars and Napoleons are so many wax figures in the museums of time. But the soul of Honest Old Abe goes marching on.

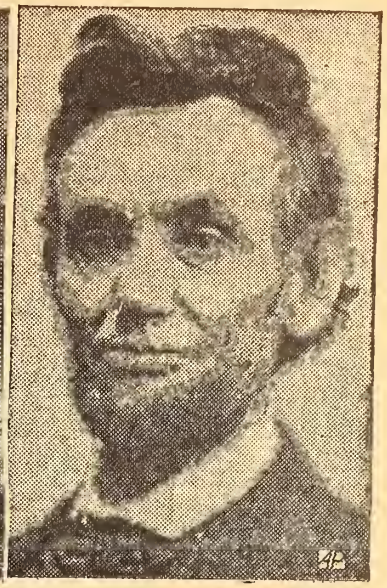
Frequently, today, you hear people ask, "If Lincoln were now alive, what would he say about the present situation—labor troubles, racial and religious intolerance, the menace of war?" The answer is—he said it—all of it.

There was in his time a political organization which called itself the "American party." The name was impressive, but deceptive. It didn't fool Lincoln—who represented all of the people all of the time. The American party was dedicated to the proposition that there is but one ruling class in the United States, consisting exclusively of those who were born white, Protestant and Anglo-Saxon. All who couldn't qualify in this restricted category—Germans, Frenchmen, Italians, Swedes, Catholics or Jews—should be denied rights of citizenship and, in effect, reduced to slavery, along with the Negroes.



Lincoln in 1860

Soon after he had been elected to the presidency.



Lincoln in 1865

One of a series made the Sunday before he was assassinated. This one was the last photo made of Lincoln.

When asked whether he had any sympathy for the aims of the American party, Lincoln said, "How can anyone who abhors the oppression of Negroes be in favor of degrading classes of white people?"

Promise of the Declaration

In one of his greatest utterances, he said that the fundamental importance of the declaration of independence was that "it gave liberty not alone to the people of this country, but hope to all the world, for all future time."

He kept on repeating that principle. When there was an outburst of labor warfare in New York, he wrote to the Working Men's association, deploring the outrages, and said, "The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be one uniting all working people, of all nations, and tongues, and kindreds. Nor should this lead to war upon property, or the owners of property."

After the outbreak of war between the states, when it seemed that the dream of Washington and Jefferson was being shattered, Lincoln sent his first message to a congress which scorned him as an uncouth, inexperienced nonenity. He spoke to them solemnly of the devastating problems confronting the union.

He expressed thoughts which were later to be solidified eternally in the Gettysburg address. "This issue," he said, "embraces more than the fate of the United States. It presents to the whole family of man the question whether a constitutional republic or democracy—a government of the people by the same people—can or cannot maintain its territorial integrity against its own domestic foes."

Spoke for All Mankind

There again was his deep sense of obligation to all men of all nations. He never stopped thinking of the human race as a family.

He stated the most fundamental beliefs and hopes of mankind in words that were as simple as they were beautiful. Those same words are now printed in newspapers, spoken over the radio or from the stage, and they apply to the situation which now prevails throughout a troubled world, just as they did in the days when the United States was in danger of destruction by forces from within itself.

That is why Lincoln lives, why people today feel that his warm, friendly, understanding spirit is still with them, still giving them hope that a government of them, by them and for them cannot persh from the earth.

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in . . . to do all which may cherish and achieve a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

Of such is the essential spirit of democracy, which is also still vibrantly alive.

"Teach Economy

that is one of the first and highest virtues. It begins with saving money."

—Abraham Lincoln

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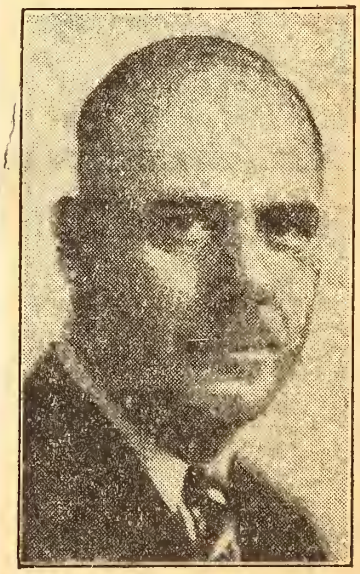
Lincoln Day Speaker



Negro history week, Abraham Lincoln and Fred Douglas birthday anniversaries will be observed at the Church of God, Twelfth and Lane streets, during the young people's hour, from 6 to 7:30 p. m. tonight. Joe Nickell (above), state representative, and radio announcer, will be the guest speaker.

Sibley, W. G.

COMMERCE AND LA SALLI

ALONG THE HIGHWAY

With W. G. Sibley

LINCOLN'S BOYHOOD

We doubt if young Abe Lincoln ever owned a glass marble or even played marbles, or ball, or flew a kite, or had a toy cannon, or skates, or a drum or any toys or playthings that cost money. Perhaps he never tasted ice cream, or soda water, or chewing gum, during his boyhood. He said once: "I was born in Kentucky, raised in Indiana and reside in Illinois." The "raising" of a boy whose parents were poor did not include playthings that had to be bought, nor indulgences that surfeit the young today, when he was young.

Anyhow, before Indiana became a state, he lived in an Ohio River county when everybody worked, even father, to make ends meet. No doubt in his later youth he enjoyed the rough sports then common, such as wrestling. He was a boy who enjoyed study and reading, and early learned to read and cipher. The arithmetic and spelling book absorbed him, and later came other books, all serious.

The other day William Fortune of Indianapolis, addressed an audience at Lincoln City, Ind., (population in 1920 one hundred and fifty). There Nancy Hanks Lincoln, his mother, was buried, and the address was in honor of her and her immortal son, with particular reference to his boyhood. He lived down there until he was 21, and learned in that backwoods environment, says Mr. Fortune, "the value of simplicity in life and speech." He inherited from his mother "the true qualities of greatness" in the university of the woods, the fields, and poverty, among the early moral aristocrats of hard work, the simple life and daily self-denial. In later years Lincoln said "it was a wild region with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods." "There I grew up," he said, and roamed over the hills among the pioneers. Fortune quotes an anecdote of him. It says his sister Sarah said to him when he was a boy: "Abe, you always make fun of everything, I wonder what is going to become of you." His reply was: "I'll tell you; I'll be president of the United States before I die." We take this with a grain of salt, but Abe learned to have confidence in himself early in life. And planted in him was a great ambition to learn and to know and to become a man among men. He revisited the home of his boyhood fifteen years after his parents moved to Illinois. His emotions he put in verse, it is said, as follows:

"Where many were but few remain
  Of old familiar things;
But seeing them, to mind again
  The lost and absent brings.

"The friends I left that parting day,
  How changed, as time has sped!
Young children grown, strong manhood gray,
  And half of all are dead."

The man who has greatness in him seldom fails to demonstrate it, sooner or later.

Sibley, W. G.

CHICAGO JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND LA SALLE

ALONG THE HIGHWAY

With W. G. Sibley

PENSION LOOT

In his second inaugural address, one of his most impressive state papers, Lincoln said:

> "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

This was Lincoln's idea of what the government owed its armies. It began and ended with those "who shall have borne the battle," as entitled to government assistance, and to his widow and orphan. There was the great man's fundamentals of war pensions. That it was the thought of the victors was undoubtedly true. But times change and customs with them. An astonishing change is now a source of anxiety to all prudent citizens. Veterans have changed since 1865. They are not so much concerned with those who have borne the battle, and their widows and orphans. They have a powerful lobby whose activities may be measured by its achievements. We quote from the New York Times:

> "The government has been paying out $400,000,000 a year to ex-soldiers whose present disability has no proved connection whatever with any war service they may have done. The injustice of this form of governmental gratuity is not denied. By it there is set up a privileged class, whose exactions, if unchecked, will grow from year to year until they place an intolerable burden of billions of dollars upon the people."

The Democratic platform expressly disapproved this prodigious raid on the treasury. When the matter came up in the house, this body approved the injustice. But in the senate Senator Smoot, Republican, introduced a bill to repeal it. It is now pending. With retrenchment demanded, Smoot's bill, if passed, will save $400,000,000, and check the lavish waste of funds now absorbed by imperious veterans.

Sibly, W. G.

ALONG THE HIGHWAY

With W. G. Sibley

Journal of Commerce & Sentinel St. Louis

WHEN LINCOLN WENT TO WASHINGTON

It is a strange Washington we see in the journal of William A. Croffut in the January Atlantic, with the north edge of the Mall a fetid canal on which floated dead cats "and all kinds of putridity reeking with pestilential odors,"—the Washington to which Abraham Lincoln went to be president. Cattle, swine, goats, sheep and geese ran at large everywhere. "Hogs wallowed in the gutters," the city was dark at night, few streets were paved, and on wet days Pennsylvania Avenue was "a river of mud and filth" in which vehicles were "often mired so deep as to be extricated with difficulty." When we first saw Pennsylvania Avenue it was paved with wooden blocks and soundless, with none of the roar of traffic on cobblestones such as Broadway was paved with.

Mr. Croffut wrote of a wartime lecture course by such men as Wendell Phillips, Horace Greeley, Bayard Taylor, Moncure D. Conway, George William Curtis, John Jay, Frederick Douglass and Ralph Waldo Emerson, none of whom, we are told, had ever before dared to speak south of Mason and Dixon's line.

Every church in the national capital was closed to these men, and the speaker of the national house of representatives flatly refused the use of the hall to them. Finally an assembly room in the Smithsonian Institute was secured, but only because its regents, among them Jefferson Davis, Senator Mason, the mayor of Washington, and others had left Washington to serve the Confederacy. Lincoln helped to secure this room. Edward Everett, William Lloyd Garrison and Henry Ward Beecher could not be persuaded to speak. Washington, unofficially, was too devoted to the cause of the south for either of them to dare face a Washington audience. But great audiences attended the lectures, including Lincoln, members of his cabinet and congressmen. The course netted a profit of $2,000. Whittier declined to speak. As a Quaker he wrote: "I wish that great good may come of thy work. But thy way is not my way." And great good did come of it. Croffut wrote in his journal:

> It is not too much to say that these lectures helped to change the moral atmosphere of Washington. From being fanatically proslavery, the capital city became netural; to intolerance succeeded tolerance; to treason, loyalty; to sectionalism, nationalism; and even the army felt itself less a trespasser on the soil and rights of others after Greeley, Phillips, and Douglass had faced friends and enemies in the spacious semicircle of seats in the Smithsonian.

And Lincoln at that time, cadaverous and ungainly, bowed by a responsibility such as no other president of the republic ever shouldered! We are told that he "became constantly more lean and sallow," that he "had a very dejected appearance, and ugly black rings appeared under his eyes." "I well remember," writes Mr. Croffut, "how weary and sad he looked at one of the inevitable receptions as he stood near the folding doors where the central corridor empties itself into the East Room." Those who win immortal fame pay for it.

Sid Says:

Lincoln did not expect the ravens to feed him—why should you or I?

IDA M. TARBELL, great Lincoln historian, tells us in this number of the magazine that Abraham Lincoln left an estate of more than $110,000. His widow and his two sons, Robert and "Tad," each received $36,991.54.

Contrary to a general impression, Lincoln was not a poor man when he died. All his life he was industrious and thrifty. For years his savings were necessarily small—but he always *saved something*. He continually strived to get ahead and to acquire a reasonable financial independence. He was generous. He did an immense amount of hard work for other people for which he never received a cent. But he constantly kept before him the idea that he should, if possible, lay up a substantial sum for a rainy day. When he was elected President, at the age of fifty-one, he had accumulated $25,000, which in those days was a very considerable amount. As Miss Tarbell points out, his whole financial philosophy can be summed up in these words: "A man should work, do his best, lay up something for the future, and help his brother man when he can."

Plain common sense, you say. Yes, but rare, wherever you find it. This thing we call "common sense" is usually a statement of what men *should* do, not what they actually do. At any rate, it is comforting to know, authoritatively and in detail, just how this man looked at these matters. After all, Lincoln was the highest type of American—distinguished above everything for his ideals. Yet there is the bread-and-butter side of life, and it is interesting to have the particulars of how this great and wise man viewed things from that point of view. The facts, as related in this article, prove that Lincoln was a well-rounded man, sane and level-headed to the last.

If anybody in the United States had a right to imagine that the world owed him a living, Lincoln did. For years he did nothing but give, give, give to his country.

But that did not disturb Lincoln's equilibrium. He realized perfectly that so far as his personal independence and obligations were concerned, he must attend to them if they were to be attended to. If everybody had as good a sense of responsibility for himself as Lincoln had there would not be the necessity of doing so much for the country!

Most of the folks we know are either too excited about accumulating a ridiculous amount of money, or they are not careful to save any. Lincoln was a rare man in this respect, just as he was in most other respects. He had what is foolishly called—plain "horse sense."

Simmons, Roscoe

Simpkin. P. A.

The Union

10c In Europe & Africa

NO. 43.

Entered as second-class matter, February 13, 1907, at the Post Office at Cincinnati, Ohio, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879

CINCINNATI, OHIO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1940.

EXCERPTS

From Roscoe Simmons' Emancipation Speech

CINCINNATI, O., JANUARY 1, 1940.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST OF MANY READERS OF THE UNION, WHO DESIRE SAME FOR PRESERVATION.

Any celebration of American Emancipation is a celebration of Abraham Lincoln, his vision and his views. It is a celebration of the noblest sacrifice man ever made for man.

* * * * *

In cold, pure thought, in brightest turn of moving phrase, Lincoln takes second place to none we meet in history, but it was the quality of the heart with which he undid the bigot and captured the forces of arrogance and oppression.

* * * * *

Lincoln is raceless, but for convenience's sake we yield him to the tribe whence he sprang. And yet the qualities with which he subdued a world opposed to him, and brought forth freedom, seem dead in those who now enrich their name with his renown.

He executed the orders of the prophet and will never die.

* * * * *

When I rise to speak of Lincoln memory whispers other names cherished by the free American man—Samuel Adams, Washington, Sumner, Henry, mighty Jefferson, Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Grant and Douglass. But her gentlest, sweetest whisper is of John Brown, put to death by Virginia as a sign to Lincoln, who nevertheless moved ahead unmindful of the tidings.

The fool today becomes the saint tomorrow.

* * * * *

Birthday tributes to Lincoln, though attempted by our ~~modest~~ noblest orators, Choate or Ingersoll or even matchless Douglass, tell but half the story. It is Emancipation alone that recalls the single work which renders his name sublime. Bring in the world sublime only when death crowns a cause.

It was not his humor, his passion, or the words of power that set Lincoln above all figures in the history of the struggle of man against tyranny, but the task done, when doubt and dread counselled him against the step. Action is the noblest word in freedom.

* * * * *

Eighty-one years ago Lincoln spoke in this city. The gods had not yet anointed him and Seward's was the name on the ready tongue of chance. He threw his high, sweet voice across the once courteous queen of waters into Kentucky, and on to the Gulf. That he once stood here is sufficient to explain my presence here.

* * * * *

What Lincoln said here few tongues now recite. For the loathsome ingrates who were born to be slaves I quote a sentence, the theme of his life from boyhood: "I SAY THERE IS ROOM ENOUGH FOR ALL TO BE FREE, AND THAT IT NOT ONLY DOES NOT WRONG THE WHITE MAN THAT THE NEGRO SHOULD BE FREE, BUT IT POSITIVELY WRONGS THE MASS OF THE WHITE MEN THAT THE NEGRO SHOULD BE ENSLAVED."

He parried with a stubborn foe, but his Cincinnati doctrine doctrine conquered irresolution and filled the world. That doctrine loosed thousands fit only for chains. Their offsprings are still in revolt because Lincoln overturned the idols. Pen nor sword ever made a free man out of natural bondmen.

* * * * *

I dwell not upon grievances which agitate impatient men. I make no speech of boast. Emancipation is still at work. One hundred years hence the wheat will have been separated from the chaff, and those who deserve freedom will enjoy it. The slave will sink to his natural state, and misery will draw no color line.

* * * * *

Since 1865 we can look back over the only magnificent distance in history. The present is not all cloudy and the future is bright in hope of expectation. I have seen God's work. Tongues bitter against me have been unhinged to mock a braggart and I have seen my slanderer die in chains of a lunatic. But I am not in debate. I raise no dispute.

God was the Architect, Lincoln was the chief workman and I the tool, and thus was built the temple of freedom under God in the place reserved for it from the beginning.

* * * * *

Before Lincoln sat on Olympus and while yet his people, whom he had delivered, were unable to say whether he was jester or king of men, the freedmen erected the first monument to his memory. The President, the Supreme Court and the lawmakers adjourned to attend the scene and to listen to Douglass, first of speakers, chosen to dedicate what is still the beautiful altar of love erected to one who had so great a love that he laid down his life for thousands not worthy to be his friends.

* * * * *

But Douglass was his friend. Genius is ever friend to genius. It was here that Douglass said: "MANY TRUE THINGS MAY be said of Lincoln but no new thing may be said of him."

Orators have spoken, poets have sought the gods, teachers have fingered heavy, devoted volumes, but nothing new has been told of him. He was born in a cabin and raised in poverty; he stole learning from reason; and Nature, seeing that he loved her so, gave him speech; he took counsel from men but advice only from God.

He saw the slave and embraced freedom. He changed his language to gain advantage for his cause, but he pondered in his heart the way to accomplish his mission. Presently he met up with Grant. In his hour he reached the decision. His work donce, he was put to death.

* * * * *

Except for these things, tonight my only speech would be a cry for mercy under yoke and lash. Emancipation vindicated the Revolution.

Simpkin, P. A.

2-13-09

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

GLOWING TRIBUTE PAID TO LINCOLN

"Parson" Simpkin Delivers an Entrancing Address Upon Great Emancipator.

"HE LOVED THE SOUTH WHILE FIGHTING IT"

Lynd's Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Gives Delightful Entertainment.

Although Friday was prolific of many addresses on the life of the great emancipator, none surpassed in earnestness and heart-felt admiration that delivered by the Rev. P. A. Simpkin at the Lincoln and St. Valentine entertainment given by the ladies of Lynd's chapter, No. 1, Order of the Eastern Star, in the banquet room of Masonic hall.

The entertainment is of regular monthly occurrence, with the exception that in this instance it was somewhat more elaborate than usual, because of the holiday. Otherwise the entertainment, for the benefit of the floral fund, was the same as takes place each month.

The chief event of the evening was the address by the Rev. Mr. Simpkin, who, besides being a fluent and easy speaker, is a great admirer of the martyred president. Regarding his life and high achievement, he said, in part:

"The rough and rugged manhood out of which he walked into the presence of that great white light serves to mark his greatness. This great republic is, because he was, and because our forefathers wrought so splendidly under his marvelous example, for, while he was near to us, while his feet were firmly planted on the earth, his head was in the stars. Yet his greatest characteristic was his simplicity, which was depicted in the greatness of his soul and the keenness of his vision. It was with this that he gripped the heart of the '60's, and has since gripped the heart of all the world.

One of Few Hearts.

"His was one of the few hearts—I question whether among all the great hearts of the time there was another great enough to have loved the south, as he unquestionably did love it, and at the same time fight it as he did.

"He hated slavery from that time when he stood by a slave mart block and witnessed the sale of human beings to the highest bidder, like cattle, and his soul cried within him, 'If I ever get a chance to hit this thing, by God, I'll hit it hard.'"

Briefly, because an audience at the armory was awaiting him, the speaker detailed the early and hard life of Lincoln, carried him through the soul-racking time of the war, and closed with a vivid word picture of the nation's blackest hour, when he whom he placed next to Christ, among the great ones of the earth, fell the victim of the assassin's shot, not because he was great; not because he hated slavery; not because he freed the negro, but because one man could not think straight.

A Novel Feature.

At the close of the address of the evening the entire assembly arose and sang the "Star Spangled Banner," after which dancing was in order.

The banquet room was beautifully decorated in festoons of red hearts, in honor of St. Valentine, and the American flag, in honor of Lincoln, and the entertainment throughout was a splendid social success.

Among the novel features of the evening, evolved by the worthy matron, Mrs. J. E. McCarty, was the delivery of valentines by uniformed mail carriers. The mail carriers were Miss Nellie McCarty, Miss Pauline May and Master Harold Broadbent, the three youthful representatives of the kindly saint, who patched hearts, both literally and figuratively, were appropriately uniformed, and distributed their messages with a lavish hand.

Worthy Matron Mrs. J. E. McCarty entertained, assisted by Mrs. Thomas Nipper, Mrs. Conover, Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. McCullow, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Lawrence, Miss Bird, Miss Hardesty, Mrs. Derrah, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Jenkins, Dr. Broadbent, Mrs. May, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Bentress and Master of Ceremonies Walter Scott.

Simpson, Bishop Matthew

The Evangelical-Messanger

February 7, 1925.

TRIBUTE

Tribute

It Has Come True

Bishop Matthew Simpson, standing before Lincoln's tomb, uttering the funeral oration, said:

"Mothers shall teach thy name to their lisping children. The youth of our land shall emulate thy virtues. Statesmen shall study this record and learn lessons of wisdom. Mute though thy lips be, yet they still speak. Hushed is thy voice but its echoes of liberty are ringing through the world, and the sons of bondage listen with joy. Prisoned thou art in death, and yet thou art marching abroad; and chains and manacles are bursting at thy touch."—*Ex.*

Sims, Rear Admiral Wm. S.

'AMERICANISM IS A DEFECT,' SAYS SIMS

Won't Stand Adverse Criticism as Briton Does, He Tells Lincoln Day Meeting.

PREDICTED GREAT WAR IN 1910, HE DECLARES.

Gives Warning for Future if Navy Will Not Be Advised by Men Who Know.

N.Y. Times 2/12/20

Rear Admiral William S. Sims, speaking last night at the dinner of the Jersey City Lincoln Association in the Carteret Club, that city, took up the challenge that he was pro-British. He said:

"I defy any intelligent man to live in another country for several years and not be accused of being 'pro' that country. I was Naval Attache in France for four years and was accused of being a Frenchman.

"I have been accused of being a politician. I give you my word that before I was called before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, I knew only one Senator by sight, and that was Senator Lodge, whom I had met on one occasion."

Admiral Sims spoke on "The Americanism of Abraham Lincoln." He said in part:

"I thought you'd rather hear about the navy than about my possibly curious ideas of Americanism. **Americanism, in a certain sense, is a defect, as you good Americans will be surprised to hear.**"

Americanism, he explained, differs from similar qualities in other nations in that America will not stand criticism that is adverse.

Difference in Britain.

"In this respect," he said, "America differs from Great Britain, which does not condemn a man for criticism. Over in England they sometimes reward a man for criticism. They do not punish a man in England for constructive criticism—they welcome it. Admiral Jellico and Admiral Lord Fisher and Admiral Bacon have all written books which are drafted criticism of apparent errors in the British Navy, and they have not been punished for their words.

"This is the only country in the world which refuses to allow military men to criticise. The courts martial refuse to allow it. Now, what do you think of that? That's the difference I told you about.

"They refuse criticism from the only men who know what they are talking about. The Articles of War state that no military man may publish anything of a critical nature without permission. Everything must be first censored. If you care to, I would suggest that you read a recent issue of World's Work. In this work you will find an article of mine which contains no criticism."

"In December, 1910, I wrote a letter comprising six reports to my superior officers. I wrote it on a typewriter myself and kept no copy. The burden of my remarks was that the war would not be delayed more than four years. What do you suppose they did with this in Washington? I don't know. I never had an answer."

An American naval critic, however, can criticise the Navy Department in letters to the Secretary, Admiral Sims said. That, he asserted, was what he had been doing.

Denies Public Criticism.

He denied that he had given out any letters of criticism of the navy for publication.

"Americanism!" he said. "We are all right, and if we are all wrong, don't let anybody tell us about it.

"I was called down before the Senate Committee for a statement comparing our forces with those of other countries.

"Assumption has been made that I criticised the record of the navy. I have gone beyond the limits in praising the men for their work. I have simply told the truth. Some of it was not liked."

Admiral Sims declared that he wrote from England to "tone down" headlines appearing in papers here.

"I wanted to modify some of the heardlines that were appearing in our papers and were being reprinted on the other side. These headlines, or articles, assumed that the United States was the potent factor at that time. We then had only three per cent. of the fighting forces. It was the same: 'We are all right, and if we're not, we don't want to hear about it.'

"Look at Hoover. He's been called pro-British. Let me add now, and say emphatically, that any criticism I have made has ben made for the benefit of the navy. We got away with this job this time, but we may be up against it next time, with a navy that is not busy fighting the navies of other countries at the same time. This fight of mine in Washington is a fight of principle and not of personality."

Singleton, Gen. James Washington

WHEN, April 14, 1865, the news ran through Washington that "Lincoln has been shot," two men were on their way to supper whose future movements were completely changed as a result of that fatal pistol discharge.

One of the men was Gen. James W. Singleton, an Illinois man of distinguished record and friend of Abraham Lincoln, and the other was John P. Usher, Secretary of the Interior. Gen. Singleton had that very day been unofficially designated to carry to the people of Virginia the message from the President that he would favor the return of that state to the Union with her government intact. He sent the same message to all the other seceded states. Secretary Usher was to have accompanied Gen. Singleton.

In his pocket at the time Washington was thrown into a panic by the shooting at Ford's Theater, Gen. Singleton carried a slip of paper. On it, in Lincoln's handwriting, were the words: "Allow Gen. Singleton to pass to Richmond and return. A. LINCOLN. April 13, 1865." This, one of the last passports ever written by Lincoln, Gen. Singleton has placed in a gold case, under glass. It is now in the possession of Mrs. Howard Osburn, formerly Miss Lily Singleton, his daughter.

* * *

Although unofficial, the message of pacification which Gen. Singleton was to have carried to the southern states from Abraham Lincoln forms part of an interesting chapter in the lives of both men. Gen. Singleton, distinguished as a lawyer, and for two terms a member of the House of Representatives, although opposed to Lincoln politically, was nevertheless his friend. More than this, the facts concerning this particular incident in Gen. Singleton's life show that he was not only a trusted friend of the President, but one in whom Lincoln reposed considerable faith as a peace arbiter.

The story itself is told by Miss Anna Singleton Macdonald, a niece of Gen. Singleton, and for many years a member of his immediate family.

Although Gen. Singleton's home was in Quincy, Ill., where his villa, Boscobel, became famous, his winters were spent in Springfield, Lincoln's home. His house was a gathering place for the most brilliant people and his hospitality a byword for those fortunate enough to be his friends. And because Springfield was Lincoln's home and also because the times were troublesome politics and Lincoln formed the chief topics of conversation at the dinner table and social gatherings. Consequently, although never having known Lincoln intimately, Miss Macdonald heard all of the gossip, rumors and rumors of rumors which were current at that time and is in a position to cast many sidelights upon conditions of that time. But most interesting among the incidents which happened fifty years ago is that relating to Gen. Singleton's trips through the south, made at Lincoln's request.

"My uncle," said Miss Macdonald, "took no active military part in the war between the north and south. Gov. Yates of Illinois offered him the colonelcy of a regiment of ten companies of cavalry, but this he refused. Loyal to the Union, he nevertheless had a deep sympathy for the south—a sympathy, moreover, which he felt at liberty to express. And it was this sympathy and understanding in regard to the southern cause which made Lincoln choose him as an unofficial peace arbiter, despite the fact that many of his speeches brought forth protest from northern advocates.

* * *

"Although Gen. Singleton had known President Lincoln many years before, this particular incident begins early in January, 1865, just after Sherman's march to the sea had been terminated and many persons thought that the war was nearing its end.

"President Lincoln wrote my uncle, through O. H. Browning, that he wished to see him. When Gen. Singleton saw the President, Lincoln asked his opinion regarding the situation in the south, the feelings of the southern leaders, and the prospect of an early and satisfactory peace. Gen. Singleton replied that the war could be ended if the southern people were correctly informed as to the real conditions in the north. My uncle believed that the south was entertaining false hopes, originated by democrats north of the Ohio river, and that could these be dispelled an amicable agreement might be reached.

"I have my uncle's own account of the President's reply. He said: 'Singleton, I want to have a full and frank talk with you concerning all these affairs. It has occurred to me that if there is anybody in the country who can have any influence on those people and bring about any good, you are the man. They must have confidence in you; you have been as much their friend as it was possible for you to be and yet be loyal to the government under which you live. I think this notwithstanding your speeches, for one of which I have been advised to arrest you. I had much rather you had not felt as your speeches seemed to show you felt, but cannot say that you said anything which you had not the right to say. You have said more about me than anybody else, and in view of this I assured those people who wished you arrested that if I could stand it they ought to find no fault.'

"To this Gen. Singleton said that whatever might be their political differences, he would never say an unkind personal thing of him, but that he regarded his administration as an entirely proper subject for criticism.

* * *

"President Lincoln then went on to tell my uncle of his desire to bring about the end of the war. He said he realized that he could not send any one officially, but that as a private citizen Gen. Singleton should be able to accomplish much. My uncle replied that it would be the proudest effort of his career to attempt this mission of peace. Agents of the north, he said, were assuring the southern leaders that the north was tired of the struggle and was on the eve of a revolt, which could bring about a repudiation of the war. It was this false hope, he told the President, that must be shattered.

"At Gen. Singleton's request, Lincoln wrote a letter which in substance stated that if Virginia, or any of the other seceded states, would recognize the authority of the United States and elect senators and representatives, such senators and members would be entitled to take their places. This the President was particularly anxious to bring about, in order that the southern delegation might aid in somewhat conteracting the extreme measures of the radical majority in Congress, to which he was opposed.

"The letter written, my uncle asked President Lincoln what he should answer were the people of the south to ask how that letter and his emaneipation proclamation could stand side by side. And the reply came:

" 'I have issued that proclamation, and if it have any legal effect I have no power to recall it. If it have not any legal effect it is of no consequence. I would not take it back if I could, and I could not if I would.'

"This statement my uncle took to mean that a higher tribunal existed, the judiciary, to which the proclamation could be referred as regarded its legality, which might or might not restore the slaves to the south.

* * *

"Gen. Singleton made four visits to Richmond. On the first, January, 1865, motives of Lincoln and believed that peace could be secured with honor. But Mr. Davis remained firm in the impression that the north was not a unit and would shortly be torn asunder. He also believed it was weakened financially. This argument my uncle refuted by saying:

" 'Mr. Davis, you are seriously wrong in this conclusion, and if you will select three men and permit them to go north I will assure them safe conduct, and they can investigate and report the feeling in and the condition of the north. You are now fighting, not only the entire north, but the whole world, whose resources are being employed for your subjugation. There is no lack of men in that section; every dry goods box is covered with idlers, and the signs of prosperity were never more promising than at the present time.'

"Mr. Davis declined, however, to send the agents and Gen. Singleton returned to Washington. He reported to Lincoln: 'I have not brought back peace in a lump from the conference, but I am glad I went down and hope for good results.'

"On another of his trips to Richmond Gen. Singleton spent the night at the headquarters of Gen. Grant, and an incident occurred which I think is worthy of relating. Grant asked my uncle if he knew Gen. Lee, to which Gen. Singleton replied that he had known him since his boyhood. Then Gen. Grant said: 'I remember Lee well, but do not know whether or not he remembers me. I believe if I could meet him this thing could be ended. I should be perfectly satisfied to have Gen. Lee come here to my headquarters and I would guarantee that he should receive complete protection.' When my uncle left next morning he asked Gen. Grant if he would be willing to have the conversation repeated to Gen. Lee, and Grant said he wished it might be told him fully.

* * *

"Gen. Lee was in the habit of going to Richmond each Sunday to attend church, and it was on one such occasion that Gen. Singleton met him. My uncle told him of his conversation with Gen. Grant, to which the southern leader replied: 'It would give me great pleasure if I could indulge the hope of realizing what Grant suggests as to the results of an interview. I would be willing to make almost any sacrifice to secure the end of the unfortunate conflict, but it would be extremely painful for me to go and meet Grant and my old comrades and then return without anything having been accomplished. Unless there could be a guarantee that some permanent good

would result from the conference I would not be willing to undergo the pain and humiliation which otherwise would certainly result.'

"This conversation Gen. Singleton reported to Gen. Grant, asking him to place the matter before the President, and Lincoln when told of the affair expressed his desire to bring about the conference. As a result, when Gen. Singleton made his third trip to Richmond, in February, 1865, he carried a letter from Gen. Grant to Gen. Lee, and to this Gen. Lee wrote a letter, sent under a flag of truce, consenting to the interview. But Secretary Stanton forbade the meeting, saying it was by order of the President. This, however, was later emphatically denied by Lincoln.

"On still another visit to the southern capital Gen. Singleton met numerous members of the Virginia legislature. To these he recommended that when Gen. Lee should be driven from Virginia they should convene the legislature, repeal the ordinance of secession, take the oath prescribed by the Constitution and send the record to Mr. Lincoln. To this they assented, and Gen. Singleton told the President of these facts and Lincoln was much pleased.

*
* *

"The trip which my uncle never made to Richmond would have been the fifth. With his passport dated the 13th of April, Gen. Singleton went next day to have a final talk with the President. It was at this time that Lincoln told him to assure the people of Virginia that he would favor the return of the state into the Union with her government intact, sending a similar message to all the other seceded states.

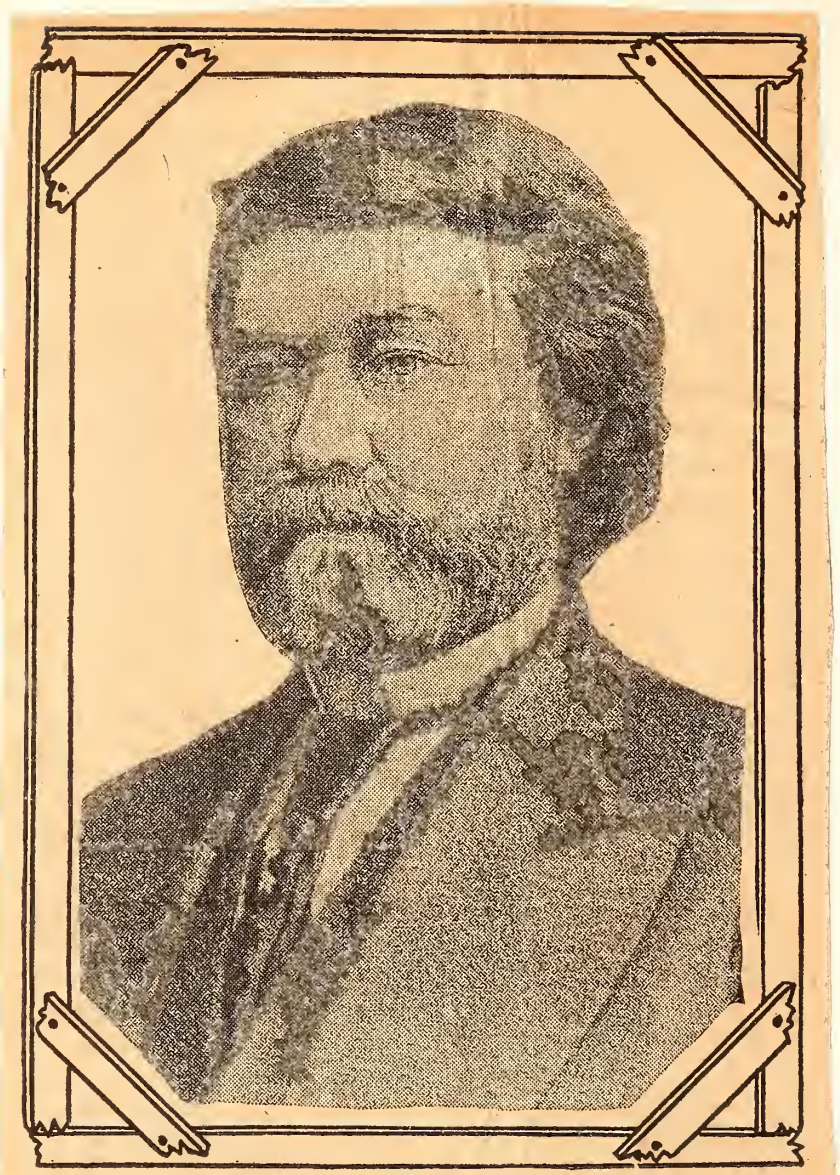
"Gen. Singleton told Lincoln that Gen. Weitzel was then in command in Virginia, and that when the Virginia legislature had attempted to follow out his previous advice the local commander had forbidden it. He also complained to Mr. Lincoln that the assurances which had been made to Virginia had not been carried out. Lincoln replied:

" 'I cannot do everything at once, for I am impeded by the fact that everything is under martial law at the present time. I wish you to go again immediately to Richmond and assure the people.'

"Secretary Usher was present at this conversation, and upon its close the two men left. But a short time later that evening they were on their way to find Gov. Yates of Illinois for the purpose of making a party for supper, and while on their way heard of the tragedy just enacted at Ford's Theater. The last conversation the President had with my uncle was one of peace and mercy.

"In recalling the events which were crowded into the hours immediately following Lincoln's assassination, my uncle has many times told of an incident which shows the tension under which the city was at the time. In company with several friends, Gen. Singleton that same evening went from place to place gleaning particulars of the fatal shooting. Later they entered a restaurant. Some one, looking at the clock, remarked that it was 2:30. A chorus immediately started; the clock must be fast, it could not possibly be so late. But upon examining their watches every one found the clock to be correct. 'Yet,' my uncle has often said, 'had I been on oath as to the time when we entered the place, without having seen the clock, I should have sworn without the slightest hesitation that it was not later than 11 o'clock. The hours had been concentrated by the tremendous pressure of the events of the evening.' "

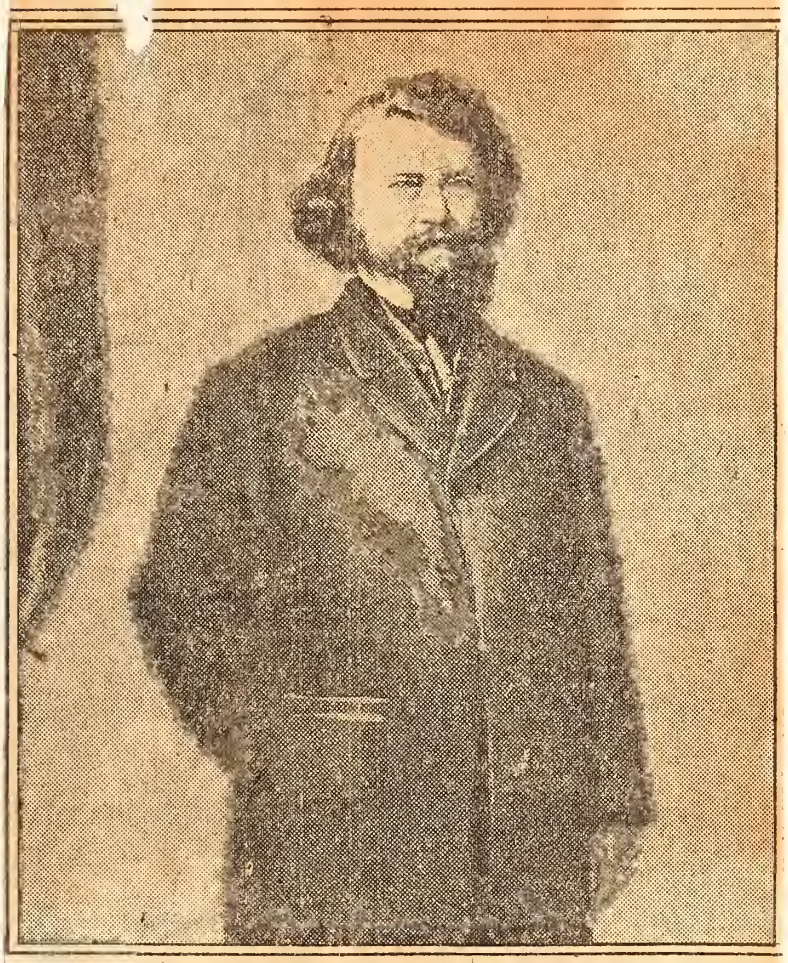
he went directly to Richmond and was very kindly received, although it was some days before he was able to see President Davis. When he did see the Confederate president he assured him he was satisfied with the position and



GEN. JAMES W. SINGLETON.

Sisson. Prof. Edward

LINCOLN'S "LOST FRIEND"



From a Photograph by Brady.

General James Washington Singleton.

THE STANDARD-STAR, NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1928

WEIK

Sisson, Prof. Edward

Calls Lincoln Failure in His Peace Efforts

Oregon Professor Talks to London Audience.

BY JOHN STEELE.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

LONDON, May 8.—Lincoln's lost causes, both the settlement of slavery and the preservation of the union "by intelligence and good will" were the subject of an address by Prof. Edward Sisson of Reed college, Portland, Ore., today. He talked at London university.

His address was preceded by an introduction by Ambassador Charles G. Dawes. Mr. Dawes recalled that his own impressions of Lincoln had been picked up from the President's Illinois friends, notably from Gov. R. J. Oglesby. "Only Oglesby of Illinois gave me the impression of the great stature of Lincoln," Ambassador Dawes asserted. "He was not only a man of great kindness as depicted to school boys, but he was a man of tremendous force and of great strength and energy."

Prof. Sisson started with the assertion that Lincoln was overpraised. The causes of the civil war, he said, were the abolition of slavery and the preservation of the union, but Lincoln disapproved of war.

"Lincoln's causes were the solution of those problems by intelligence and good will, and both these methods failed," Sisson declared, citing Lincoln's second annual message to congress. That, he declared, was the greatest state paper the emancipator ever wrote. Although the war was a year old, Lincoln insisted on pronouncing his beliefs despite popular hostility that the two problems should be settled without bloodshed; that the slave owners were entitled to compensation, and that the New England vessel owners had insisted on keeping up the slave trade while the south was protesting hopelessly. These sentiments were anathema to abolitionists, but Lincoln held to his causes, even though he had already lost, the professor said.

Chicago Daily Tribune
May 9 - 1931

Skirvin, C. F.

SKINNY SKRIBBLES

Around and About Town

With C. F. (Skinny) SKIRVIN

The Old Philosopher came in today to talk to me about Abe Lincoln. He said he never saw him, but he knew him right well—knew him for his humility, for his faith, for his devotion to a cause which finally reunited a nation torn by internal strife, and which, through his great love and patience he may now see over the ramparts of eternity a contented unity—of the people, for the people, by the people.

* * *

Almost four score years have again passed since that civil conflict merged into a pledge of national reconstruction and fellowship. Over that long period of years there has been developed under the flag of liberty and the common faith of a common people, a nation indissoluble in its humane purpose, and impregnable in its national honor.

* * *

But, said the Old Philosopher, we should never lose sight of the fact that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. There is now filtering into our national and political arteries the insidious propaganda of a foreign foe intended to discontent this peace-loving country. It threatens to tear from the anchors of national safety that self-same government of the people, by the people, for the people.

* * *

Seems to me, said the O. P., that Lincoln was divinely led. With a firm purpose to do the right as he saw the right, he pressed forward to an objective with a heart full of compassion toward those he opposed. He visualized the safety which came to a nation solidified, and its danger from division. Time has proved the value of his wisdom. It is the solemn obligation of those who became the beneficiaries of his judgment to unyieldingly protect those virtues of our national existence, not from the prejudicial standpoint of any political affiliation, but to safeguard our national patriotism. It seems to me, said the O. P., that Lincoln viewed every question far beyond the preference of the partisan horizon.

* * *

Lincoln crowded the mortal limitations into unknown expanse. From the humble log-cabin near Hodgensville, Ky., to the exultation of presidency of the United States, which honor he bore with a meekness unusual in its administration, he revealed to his fellow men that an obscure birth is no bar to a man's progress. The Old Philosopher thought that in our own environment our contribution to the happiness and security of the nation was relatively important.

* * *

When a man can emerge from an avalanche of opposition to the pinnacle of public esteem, the depth of his humanity, the breadth of his vision, and the unerring accuracy of his judgment aroused not only the amazement of the people of his day, but has continued during the years, and time has only added to the national gratitude of this great character.

* * *

The simplicity of his life is best told in his common attributes. Lincoln's most expensive suit cost $7. Now we got a lot of fellows wearin' $7 shirts who put in most of their time complaining about the government, instead of doin' something for it. But, said the Old Philosopher, I haven't found any monuments erected in their memory, or any other evidence of a contribution to the common weal. I think this epoch should go down in history as representing the period of national abdominal agitation, with the minimum of substantial assistance.

* * *

My appreciation of Lincoln was accentuated after listening to an address by Cloyd Hartranft of Anaheim delivered yesterday before a local service club. Cloyd lived in an environment following the martyred president. He absorbed the intimacy of Lincoln's experiences. That is why he can talk about him with such feeling and appreciation. Hartranft supplied for John Wesley Hill, chancellor of the Lincoln Memorial University. If you wish to get a patriotic impulse, list Hartranft on your speaking program. You will come away with a better understanding of the days through which Lincoln passed, and how much he did for this generation.

* * *

Well, said the O. P., I've tried to read some during my life, made a few historical excursions into the realms of literature, compared the governments of despotism and those of democracy, analyzed to an extent the Icarian and the individual, and I'm satisfied with the freedom of the street, the security of the home, and the blessings of companionship as offered by the good old U. S. A., but I haven't the slightest objection to those who prefer some other kind, provided they go where the kind they prefer is available.

* * *

Lincoln's life led him to the Gethsemane of assassination. He delivered his own panegyric at Gettysburg.

Santa Ana Journal

2/2/36

Santa Ana Journal
2/12/37

Skirvin, C.

Skinny Skribbles

Around and About Town

With
C. F.
(Skinny)
SKIRVIN

Abraham Lincoln, the country boy who made good in Washington. He's having an anniversary today—some place. Born Feb. 12, 1809, in Hardin county, Kentucky, under circumstances so modest that much of his schooling was by parental impartation, he emerged into one of the two conspicuous characters in American history. He was able to get a copy of "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress," the Bible, "Aesop's Fables," the "Life of Washington," and the poems of Burns, literature in striking contrast with "Ballyhoo," "Hooey" and the effervescent publications so easily available today.

* * *

Lincoln never had a chance to hitch-hike. His transportation to schools was that afforded by nature. There wasn't a Ford thought of when he was laying the foundation for an education. No movie hero appeared on the horizon to give him an inspiration or a "bum steer." But he had a yen for work, probably out of necessity, and an insatiable yearning for knowledge, which was partly supplied by his mother. Mothers in those days did not have the diversions of whist, cocktail parties, or other modern complexities of social demands. They did have the economic problem, and it was a real one, solved by the individual instead of the government.

* * *

In Lincoln's day they were tenting on the old camp ground. Now they are camping at General Motors. The picture has changed, but it was Lincoln through the long vista of years who saw the coming conflict between those who employ and those who work, and I'm not so sure if we had him with us today but what he could have found a solution.

* * *

Lincoln had a devotion to his mother which he acknowledged thus: "All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my sainted mother." The boy and girl of today could with profit meditate upon this acknowledgment, adopt its precepts, and thereby make a contribution to our social and spiritual life. I'm not discouraged with our youth, they are living in changed times, but the elements of filial affection and virtue are fundamentals which belong to every age.

* * *

Lincoln set an example for public speakers in his Gettysburg address. It was a great oration, and, as a classic has a permanent place in American literature. When I am listening to some fellow prowl all over the universe to get material for a message which a percentage of his audience would like to hear in about ten minutes consumed time, and he consumes an hour, I always think of how much Lincoln said in about three minutes, and how long it has been remembered.

* * *

When Lincoln was a boy he built a rail fence and enclosed a ten-acre plot so the vegetation would be safe. Now we have food markets with such a variety of vegetables you got to buy a $150 refrigerator to put 'em in. Abe did the work with an axe. Now we let the Edison or the Southern Counties Gas do the work. He went all the journey from germs to genius, hardships to success, and died by the hand of an assassin. But he left a record on the pages of time which still remains a living testimonial of patriotic devotion and spiritual recognition.

* * *

Lincoln's life has always appealed to me. It was so free from austerity. He shunned the veneer. The real was the great basis of his strength. He was so genuine. To those who disagreed with him he was magnanimous. To those in sorrow he was sympathetic. There must have been something unusual in the man or he would not be living in our hearts and affection today. It is said that the place which knew us once will know us no more forever, but here is a character whose shrine is still the mecca of an understanding world.

* * *

All over America today speakers will glorify this illustrious character. He is the idol of the American boy, the model of statesmanship, the personification of a gentleman, and in his day "the water boy" of human thirst, moistening the lips of a fevered nation held in the crucible of civic strife, and toward which he had a consuming compassion for the participants on disputing sides.

* * *

If I were asked to recommend some abiding literature the life of Lincoln would immediately follow the Bible. For transient interest fiction appeals to the superficial reader, and I get a kick out of it myself if it is confined to something considerably under a 1,000 pages, but if you want a firm place to put your feet, associate with Lincoln during those long years of hardship, and then into the brighter days to which he was so justly entitled. There is something of a comparison in the close of his life akin to that of another Man, who gave His life to a cause not only in the interest of humanity, but for the more abundant life

Slocum, Frank D.

WEDNESDAY, FE

N. Y. Herald Tribune

Lincoln's Ideals

2-12-41

His Birthday Recalls Their Imperishable Truth

To the New York Herald Tribune:

To those who have glib, ready-made answers to all questions, Abraham Lincoln has never made a great appeal. But he has ever made a profound appeal to those deeply disturbed by one question in times of great suffering as those of today: What is the meaning of it all? On this eternal question it can be truly said, in words of the Psalmist, Lincoln, through the dark days of the Civil War, "meditated day and night." And it is to these meditations we owe the imperishable beauty of his greatest speeches.

All his speeches and state papers are excellent examples of clear thinking; his greatest are unexcelled examples of deep thinking of thinking concerned with the ultimates of life. The object of a public policy of such a thinker could not be any passing triumph of arms; it could only be a lasting victory for ideals that expressed the very soul of his people.

We Americans of today are witnessing a terrific struggle, testing whether any country conceived in such ideals can long endure. We are divided by honest differences of opinion as to how best we can preserve the heritage of Washington and Lincoln. But Americans in faith as well as in name, and that constitutes the overwhelming majority of us, are united in devotion to the ideals to which Lincoln gave so eloquent expression, and for which he, no less than tens of thousands of men on the field of battle gave the last full measure of devotion.

In what more fitting way can we commemorate Lincoln's Birthday in this no less critical year than that of 1861 than in dedicating ourselves to these ideals? In what more promising way can we seek with Lincoln's sublime humility the victory of unity over division, of liberty over tyranny, and of charity over malice; the victory, which to Lincoln was the ultimate victory, to which God called man to make unending struggle.

FRANK D. SLOCUM.

New York, Feb. 11, 1941.

Lincoln's Last Birthday—in 1865—a Quiet One

Find No Evidence of Observance by Nation

BY ALEX SMALL

On Feb. 12, 100 years ago, Abraham Lincoln became 56 years of age. It was to be his last birthday; 62 days later he was to die from an assassin's bullet after having been President of the United States four years and 42 days. If any celebration, even a private one, marked that birthday, we have no record of it. THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE did not print a word about it.

Certainly anything resembling festivity would have struck the public as in bad taste. The Civil war was obviously drawing toward its close; the Confederacy was reduced, in North Carolina and Virginia, to a segment of its original territory. Still it seemed possible that it might hold out for several months more, and the war end in a paroxysm of devastation. In any case, the war had been too long, bloody, and bitter; none but the vindictive [and there were plenty of them] could feel any job from public events on Feb. 12, 1865.

Uneasy About Birthday

In view of the place which Lincoln has come to occupy in history, the American today may wonder if the people of a century ago did not feel a bit uneasy about not observing Lincoln's birthday. The answer, so far as such a question can be answered, is that they did not. When we ask why, we come to the heart of the phenomenon of Lincoln's fame. As a living man, he had the respect of a majority of his fellow countrymen. A limited number felt some affection for him. But any emotion was very much under control.

Everything changed with his assassination. The start undoubtedly came with the words of E. M. Stanton, secretary of war, "Now he belongs to the ages." With one sentence Lincoln was transformed from a capable President, who had resolved the greatest crisis of the nation in his own way, into one of the greatest figures of all peoples and of all time. Whether the judgment was sound or not, there was no challenging it.

It gathered momentum for more than 50 years, and resulted in a mass of legend that historians of the last two generations have labored to clear away.

Document in Folkways

The result might form a document in folkways, but it obscures any view of what Lincoln was really like. It reached into assumptions of historic importance, most conspicuous of which is that, if Lincoln had lived, the cruelties and bitterness of the reconstruction period would have been avoided.

No assumption, historians now agree, could be more unwarranted. The men in control of Congress were unsympathetic to or outraged by the humane tone of Lincoln's second inaugural.

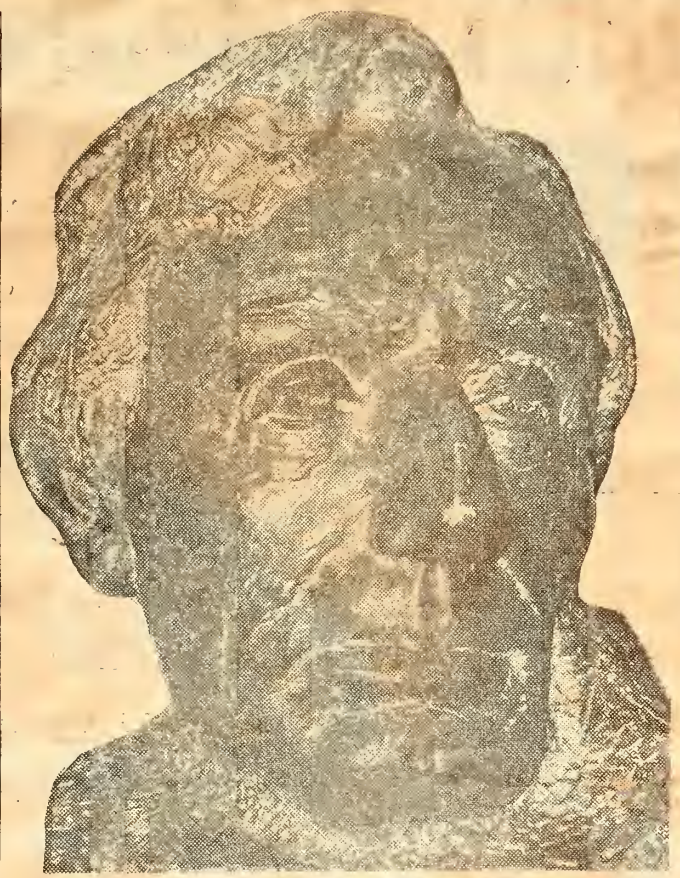
So, if we would get some idea of how Lincoln stood with the American public on his last birthday, the essential to keep in mind is that it was as he appeared before the posthumous glorification. And it is a fact that great numbers of Americans in 1865 were restrained in their admiration of the man whom they knew as "Mr. Lincoln."

His "Image" Is Vague

He had then been a national figure for almost five years, since his nomination by the Republican convention on May 18, 1860. At that moment his public image, to use the jargon of our time, was indefinite.

He was known as a prairie lawyer who had shown in 1858, in the contest with Stephen A. Douglas, that he was a sharp debater. He was also the rail splitter, a fact which may have won him more votes than it lost. Beyond that, he was "Honest Abe," by which most people apparently meant that he was not a trimmer on public issues.

His campaign managers did as little as possible to disturb that image. The rumor of his atheism they found damaging; they combated it with a picture of Lincoln in a domestic setting beside a huge family Bible. For the rest, they forbade him to leave Springfield and went on confidently to win an election thru the squabbles and follies of the opposition.



[AP Photo: From Chicago Historical Society]

[illegible] of the bust of Lincoln by Gutzon Borglum.

Chicago Tribune February 7, 1965

Not a Majority

Lincoln entered the White House on March 4, 1861, with as little public predisposition in his favor as any President has ever had. He had received less than 40 per cent of the popular vote.

Later it became part of the Lincoln legend that the country felt immense relief at seeing a man of clear ideas and firm principles take the place of the vacillating and spineless James Buchanan. Contemporary evidence hardly supports this belief. For over a month, until he sent a relief expedition to Fort Sumter, Lincoln fumbled with the situation, as might be expected of any beginner.

In the first year of war Lincoln's reputation sank to its lowest point, simply because the war was going badly.

With the campaign of 1862 and the first great Northern successes in the Mississippi valley, it was clear to the observant that the war had taken a new turn. Probably few gave Lincoln credit, as later historians have done, for devising the major strategy of the war.

All could see, however, that he was following one essential line to victory. In every department, civil and military, he was weeding out the incapable and the weaklings and replacing them with resolute and capable men.

Admiration of Enemies

Lincoln's firmness and sagacity wrung admiration even from his enemies. The press of Richmond openly said that it regretted not having a man of his caliber. It should have been expected, then, that in the election of 1864 he would win overwhelming popular indorsement and that notion is, or used to be, inculcated into American school children.

It does not correspond to the facts. Lincoln did, to be sure, get almost 55 per cent of the popular vote, which is decisive enough in a real democracy. But there was obviously a strong current against him, made up of a complexity of factors.

There were, first, many sympathizers with the people of the South, those who looked on the latter as aristocrats battling nobly against the rabble, largely immigrant, of the North.

Little Knowledge of South

Plenty of other dissidents had little knowledge of or respect for the supposed chivalric ideal of the South. There were the ones who had never accepted Lincoln's view of the rightness of their cause. His argument for it had little emotional warmth; it was a lawyer's brief, and Lincoln was a lawyer more than he was anything else.

The issue of Negro emancipation also brought Lincoln only limited support. The real abolitionists thought him dilatory and half-hearted; others were shocked at this attack on the right of property. If slaves could be confiscated, where would the process end?

More effective in the canvass of 1864 was war weariness.

Finger on Pulse

Lincoln, an excellent politician with a finger on the popular pulse, in the spring of 1864 thought defeat in the coming election more likely than not, and took his dispositions accordingly.

Astutely, he dropped the Re-

SMALL, ALEX

publican label and insisted on going to the country as head of a party of National Union, with a war Democrat as candidate for the Vice Presidency.

The political situation, following the military one, changed radically from July on. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, in spite of heavy losses, was pushing toward Richmond and holding Gen. Robert E. Lee's army in an iron grip. Then came victory at Mobile, and in the last days of August Gen. W. T. Sherman's capture of Atlanta. Lincoln had with him the unanswerable argument of success, and the added one that total victory was not now going to cost much more blood and treasure.

A Personal One

Still, one may wonder that he did not get about 80 per cent of the votes cast on Nov. 8, 1864. Besides other factors working against Lincoln, there was a personal one. It is arguable that his opponent, Gen. George B. McClellan, had more voter appeal than Lincoln, despite an unrelenting campaign to represent him as an incapable general, and even as cowardly and treasonous.

He Gest a Majority

So Lincoln in 1864 had the approval of the majority, at least in the loyal states, but it was a reasoned and tempered approval. Most people thought he had been right in principle and had shown himself competent in execution.

That, then, was the light in which his fellow-citizens saw Lincoln on Feb. 12, 1865. They were favorably disposed, but they were far from deifying him. Few went so far as to call him a truly great man. And it is maintainable that, had he lived, the estimate of him would not have become more favorable. Already he was being assailed for being "soft on the enemy." Those who wanted a pound of flesh were coming into control, and they felt that Lincoln was far from being one of their sort. There could have been an aftermath of failure, and Lincoln's reputation could have had the same eclipse as Woodrow Wilson's.

Doctrine of Lincoln Proves Greatness

BY ALEX SMALL

[*Final article of a series.*]

Perhaps the most quoted single line about Abraham Lincoln is this one, spoken by James Russell Lowell barely two months after an assassin's bullet had cut Lincoln down.

"New birth of our new soil, the first American."

Lowell was saying, of course, that Lincoln was the first American of prominence who seemed to spring entirely from the New World. Thus began what probably has been the most dominant strain in Lincoln literature, the emphasis on the child of the frontier. It became interwoven with a reverence for the "frontier," taken less as a geographical reality than as a spiritual quality.

Formulated in 1893

This doctrine, with immense influence on our views of Lincoln, was formulated in 1893 by the late F. J. Turner, then a teacher of history in the University of Wisconsin, in a paper, later a book, entitled, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History."

Lincoln's background in pioneer Indiana and Illinois, in this interpretation, is the prime factor in his most notable qualities—wide humanity, sure grasp of complex situations, self-reliance, keen perception unencumbered by inherited or bookish prejudices. Implied in this view is the addition that the nonfrontier parts of the country combated Lincoln during his life and only grudgingly later admitted his greatness.

Criticism Was Vogue

Lincoln was bitterly assailed after he became politically prominent, but that was the tone of the times. The caricatures which show him as a grotesque ape are no more vicious than the huge face of Stephen A. Douglas, looking like an advertisement for a patent baby food, or the treatment of President Buchanan, usually shown doddering with senility.

Around 1860 the New England group of writers, of whom the best remembered are probably Longfellow, Hawthorne, and Emerson, exercised immense influence, and it is true that they were likely to be very high and mighty about people who, in their estimation, had not reached their own cultural level. But they did not act that way about Lincoln. The evidence is to the contrary.

DRAWINGS IN COLOR

A full page of drawings in color, tracing the career of Abraham Lincoln, is presented by The Tribune on the back page of today's editions.

Bancroft Only Holdout

The historian George Bancroft was the only one of the group who consistently refused to see any notable qualities in Lincoln. Oliver Wendell Holmes, known as the Boston "Brahmin of Brahmins," was cool but never hostile. Emerson noticed that "he arrives . . . at a simplicity which is the perfection of manners."

Charles Eliot Norton, after a reserved first impression, found in Lincoln's letters the "clearest tone of uprightness of character, purity of intention, and goodness of heart." Of the proclamation of amnesty [Dec. 10, 1863], Norton wrote: "Lincoln will introduce

ABE LINCOLN: HIS GREATNESS RESTS ON FACTS

And There's No Need to Embellish It

[Continued from first page]

a new style into state papers. He will make them sincere, and his honesty will compel even politicians to like virtue. I conceive his character to be on the whole the great net gain from the war."

Held "True as Steel"

Another historian, fully as eminent as the unfriendly Bancroft, John Lothrop Motley, wrote after his first meeting with Lincoln: "I believe him to be as true as steel, and as courageous as true." The most unreserved tribute of all came from another Boston brahmin, Sen. Edward Everett, who in a two hour address dedicated the cemetery on Gettysburg battlefield, after which Lincoln followed with the "appropriate remarks" which became the Gettysburg Address. Regarding the latter, Everett wrote to Lincoln:

"Permit me to express my great admiration of the thoughts uttered by you with such eloquent simplicity and appropriateness. . . . I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes."

In brief, Lincoln appears to have been given as good a break in New England as in his home state of Illinois.

Religion Vexing Question

Lincoln's fame as a storyteller was hard to fit into the pioneer or any other interpretation of him. The difficulty finally was neatly turned by the discovery that these stories were all homely parables, like those in the Gospels, which he used to illustrate and drive home his points. It has not been so easy to deal with the vexed question of his religion; yet so central a question in the beliefs of any great man cannot be ignored.

Chicago Daily Tribune
Saturday, February 11, 1956
Part 1—Page 4 H★

In the widest sense it is obvious that Lincoln was a deeply religious man. He had the conviction that he was an agent for working the will of the Almighty. It can be found in the conclusion of the Second Inaugural, and in his farewell address to his neighbors at Springfield: "Without the assistance of that Divine Being . . . I cannot succeed."

A vogue for spiritualism, which had started in Europe, reached the United States in Lincoln's maturity, and it interested him. He also had some ill defined belief in dreams as a revelation or warning for the future. It may have been only to keep up appearances, but in Washington he sometimes accompanied his wife to the New York Avenue Presbyterian church.

Herndon Responsible

Lincoln's headstrong law partner and biographer, William H. Herndon, may be found at the bottom of this problem, as of so many others. Herndon called himself an "infidel" and would have it that Lincoln was one also. What Herndon seems to mean is the sort of theology called "deist," which was the belief of Franklin, Jefferson, and other founding fathers influenced by the French rationalists of the 18th century. The contemporary form of this belief is — perhaps — found among Unitarians.

One Lincoln scholar, W. E. Barton, went into the question thoroly and came up with the conclusion that Lincoln was a Calvinist. That prompted Lyman Abbot, a prominent Protestant layman of the past generation, to remark that "Lincoln was certainly not a John Calvin Calvinist."

On this point, as on many others, admirers of Lincoln strive to get him down into some category they can understand. They find it hard to accept the notion that a great man cannot be dissected and classified by ordinary standards. Others regret having to give up some of the folklore legends about Lincoln. They do not realize that Lincoln's greatness needs no embellishment. The verifiable facts are sufficient.

No notice of the Lincoln story, however brief, is complete without some specimen of the high emotion which it has aroused in others. For that purpose, we may cite one stanza of Edwin Arlington Robinson's poem, "The Master":

The love, the grandeur, and the fame
Are bounded by the world alone;
The calm, the smouldering, and the flame
Of awful patience were his own:
With him they are forever flown
Past all our fond self-shadowings,
Wherewith we cumber the Unknown
As with inept Icarian wings.

[For expert and courteous assistance in preparing this series of articles, special thanks are due to Paul Angle, director of the Chicago Historical society; Ralph G. Newman of the Abraham Lincoln book shop, and Brockden Bates of the Illinois state department of parks.]

Small, Len

Tribune

Chicago Daily Tribune & Examiner

Feb. 13 - 1921

SMALL SHOWS LINCOLN PROPHET ON MARTYRDOM

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 12.—That Abraham Lincoln felt he was to be a martyr is evidenced in a speech delivered in famous old Independence Hall, Philadelphia, when he stopped there on his journey from Springfield to Washington, where he was to take the oath of office as President of the United States sixty years ago.

Governor Len Small, addressing the Lincoln banquet at the Leland Hotel here tonight in commemorating the emancipator's 112th birthday anniversary, quoted words of Lincoln in 1861, which are strangely evident he felt such a martyrdom was to befall him.

CITES EXACT WORDS.

"In the course of that address," Governor Small said, "Mr. Lincoln said: 'All the political sentiments I entertain have been drawn, so far as I have been able to draw them, from the sentiments which originated in and were given to the world from this hall. If this nation cannot be saved without giving up those principles I would rather be assassinated on this spot than surrender them.'

'Thanks to Almighty God," Governor Small continued, "it did not come until he had finished the great and seemingly impossible task of saving the Union and freeing the slaves, making it possible for us to sing with graterul hearts and sincere lips 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty.'

"Lincoln was a man of deep religious convictions, proof of which may be found running through all his speeches and state papers. They abound with quotations from the scriptures and references to the Deity. His first great speech on slavery was from the biblical text 'A House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand.'"

OTHERS PAY TRIBUTE.

"Lincoln was prophesier of woman suffrage eighty-four years before the nineteenth amendment became the law of the land, as indicated by his New Salem letter of 1836," Governor W. C. Sproul of Pennsylvania said. He typified Lincoln as one "whose extraordinary insight into politics and public questions was remarkably keen at the age of 20," as illustrated by his speeches and writings at that age.

The example of Lincoln's "tolerance and innate sense of justice" in his treatment of all international problems offers the world the "only sure, straight road to peace," Ambassador Pezet of Peru said in his address before the Lincoln Centennial Association here. Because in foreign, as well as domestic, questions Lincoln sought the full truth before committing himself, the ambassador added, his "deeds are remembered and he grows with the years in the hearts of all peoples."

"Let all statesmen take Lincoln for their model," Mr. Pezet said, "and the causes of many wars will vanish like morning mists in the sunlight. In this sense Lincoln belongs not only to the American people, but to all just men everywhere."

Small, Len

CHICAGO SUNDAY TRIBUNE: FEBRUARY 13, 1921.

SMALL TELLS OF LINCOLN'S RISE TO LEADERSHIP

"Was Religious, Patient, and Persevering."

[BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 12.—[Special.]—Gov. Len Small, who presided as toastmaster at the Lincoln day banquet here today, made reference to the presence of Gov. Sproul of Pennsylvania and recalled Lincoln's visit to Philadelphia and his historic address in Independence hall.

"Abraham Lincoln was a man of the common people," said Gov. Small. "He knew their trials, their problems, their hopes, their ambitions. He said that God must have loved the common people or he wouldn't have made so many of them. It was his intimate knowledge of them and his ability to interpret their feelings and their desires that enabled him to lead the nation successfully through its greatest trial.

Was Deeply Religious.

"Lincoln was a man of deep religious convictions, proof of which may be found running through all his speeches and state papers, which abound with quotations from the scriptures and reference to deity. His first great speech on slavery was from the biblical text, a house divided against itself cannot stand.

"His second and last inaugural address contains two separate quotations from the scriptures, the last one seemingly of prophetic prophesy, in view of his death a few weeks thereafter: 'The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogther.' What a striking similarity to the prayer that went up from the cross of Calvary: 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do.'

Educated Himself.

"Although untutored, unlettered and uneducated, save only that self education which he dug with sublime patience and perseverance out of the mines of knowledge, he acquired through strenuous study and patient practice a form of simple expression which has given his productions a foremost place among the classics of our language. Among these, the speech that he delivered at the dedication of the National cemetery at Gettysburg on Nov. 19, 1863, will live as long as our language is spoken and as long as liberty shall animate the human heart."

Praise by Peru's Envoy.

The example of Lincoln's "tolerance and innate sense of justice" in his treatment of all international problems offers the world the "only sure, straight road to peace," Ambassador Pezet of Peru declared. "Because in foreign as well as domestic questions Lincoln sought the full truth before committing himself," the ambassador added, "his deeds are remembered, and he grows with the years in the hearts of all peoples."

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